

Hafa Adai!

NMC graduate needs a new heart. **PAGE 2**

Inmates' suit vs Corrections officials dismissed. **PAGE 3**

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75¢

'Jiangsu workers already paid'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Forty-six construction workers brought in by a contractor of the casino in Garapan are demanding that Jiangsu Provincial Construction Group pay them nine months of overtime pay.

Robert Torres, the lawyer for Jiangsu Provincial, insists that they are cooperating with both federal and local officials about the claims being made by workers that they haven't received any overtime pay.

Torres told *Saipan Tribune* that his client has settled all of its obligations to its workers. "The workers were paid their regular time and were also paid their overtime rates by Jiangsu—the hours they worked and if they worked overtime."

"The company absolutely and categorically denies that they were not paid. With respect to recruitment fees and agency fees, Jiangsu

See JIANGSU on Page 4



JON PEREZ
Workers of Jiangsu Provincial Construction Group staged a protest yesterday in front of the Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan, demanding that they get paid by their contractor.

Torres, Kilili clash on China 'parole'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Delegate Greogrio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) gave contrasting statements on the conditional parole program that allows tourists, like from China, access to visit the CNMI.

The parole authority is reserved for Chinese and Russian tourists, while

visitors from Japan and Korea enjoy the visa waiver program.

Sablan, speaking to members of the Society for Human Resource Management-Northern Mariana Islands Chapter yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret, warned that the parole program "is on shaky ground."

"As you know, 40 percent of our

See PAROLE on Page 4

Ex-NMC official wants theft case dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A former maintenance manager of the Northern Marianas College, who was accused of stealing NMC's gas last year, asked the Superior Court yesterday to order the Office of Adult Probation to advise the Office of the Attorney General that he has completed all

» After complying with obligations under agreement

obligations under their diversion program agreement so that his case may be dismissed.

Phillip Aguon Fejeran Jr., though assistant public defender Heather M. Zona, said the Office



Zona

of Adult Probation "inexplicably refuses" to release him from the diversion program so that his case may be dismissed.

Zona said the OAP asserts it can keep Fejeran in the program for a year even though

See EX-NMC on Page 4

INSIDE



NATION

The young man from Mexico presented himself as a legal U.S. resident and reliable worker.

PAGE 19



WORLD

Shaki was 18 when she died—too young given the life expectancy of a giraffe.

PAGE 21



LIFE & STYLE

CBS says the upcoming 12th season of "The Big Bang Theory" will be the last.

PAGE 24



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Local

NMC graduate needs a new heart

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

Raymond Franklin Masga Nakazato just graduated from the Northern Marianas College with a degree in Natural Resources Management in May.

Yet a moment that should have been full of hope and optimism came with a blow: Nakazato, who is in his early 20s, is now in need of a heart transplant and needs it immediately as his health is deteriorating every day.

Nakazato has a heart condition called dilated cardio-

myopathy. It is when the heart's ability to pump blood is compromised because the main pumping chamber, the left ventricle, is enlarged and weakened.

Nakazato's aunt, Caroline Agulto, said that they are sharing Raymond's story with a hope that their family can get help from the community.

"As there is no cardio specialist on Saipan, Raymond is currently confined [at the] Guam Regional Medical City and we need to fly him to the U.S. mainland to get the process of a heart transplant to

start. He can't fly on a regular flight... we need an air ambulance with a doctor and nurse beside him."

His family has done the research and were dismayed to find out that it is very costly to be transported on an air ambulance.

"Our goal is to get him to a hospital in the mainland because getting a heart transplant is not easily available here... it takes time... We want him to be on his way to the mainland to get treated because it's a process and his heart keeps deteriorating and it's starting to affect the other organs... his liver is also starting to fail and it's not a good sign," she added.

His family wants to raise \$150,000 to jumpstart Nakazato's treatment in either Washington or California.

"We have plans of working with charities and foundations to help with medical costs. We can only do that when we are in the mainland already... he has been denied twice because he doesn't have insurance, only Medicaid," said Victoria Buñag, Nakazato's girlfriend.

She said that Nakazato be-



Koniko Nakazato poses with brother Raymond Nakazato at his college graduation in the Northern Marianas College in May.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

came sick with a flu virus in December last year. But it was only in June that doctors were finally able to pinpoint the proximate cause of his weakening condition—an enlarged heart.

"The doctors believe it was

caused by a virus...other than that, he was pretty healthy as he was not a drinker or a smoker...[At first, it was thought to be] a gall stone problem but the doctor who was about to operate on him

asked for another CT scan because the symptoms were not compatible with a gall-stone problem. Then the latest CT scan showed it was his heart."

It turns out that it is not only

See NMC on Page 4

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Inmates' suit vs Corrections officials dismissed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Wednesday dismissed with prejudice a lawsuit filed by William Kapono Mathewson and 13 other inmates against Department of Corrections Commissioner Vincent S. Attao and DOC director Gregory Castro.

This means the 14 inmates can no longer re-file the case.

Manglona ordered the dismissal because the parties have reached a settlement and asked the court to drop the case.

The court will retain jurisdiction over the case to enforce the terms of the settlement.

The judge instructed the clerk to close the case.

Attao and Castro have settled the lawsuit filed by the 14 inmates to resolve the department's alleged failure to provide them with medical care, mental health care, dental care, and eye care.

Mathewson is serving a 15-year prison term for stabbing a Rota physician with a fishing spear. The doctor survived with serious injuries.

The 13 other inmates are Steven Aguon, Ray Anthony Babauta, Joseph Barto, George Cruz, Donald Hocog, Nena Langu, Wei Lin, Joaquin Lizama, Daniel Mauricio, Carlos Ramangmau, Alfredo Reyes, Price Shoiter, and Xinqiang Zheng.



In this file photo, William Mathewson walks out of the courtroom after a hearing in his criminal case.

qiang Zheng.

The inmates sued Attao and Castro for allegedly providing them inadequate medical care and inadequate mental health treatment, and subjecting them to solitary confinement.

The inmates alleged that Attao and Castro subjected them to excessive solitary confinement, in violation of the 8th and 14th Amendments of the U.S. Constitution.

By entering the settlement

deal, Attao and Castro are not making any admission of liability. They have disputed the merits and validity of the inmates' claims.

Attao and Castro in their official capacity, and the 14 inmates signed the settlement agreement.

Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc. legal counsel Jeanne H. Rayphand is representing the inmates. Assistant attorney

general Hessel E. Yntema is counsel for Attao and Castro.

Following the settlement, Rayphand and Yntema asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit

with prejudice.

The settlement resolves the issues of medical care, mental health care, dental care, eye care, medications, sanctions matter, records, and DOC rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.

On medical care, Attao and Castro disclosed that they are in the process of employing

a physician to provide on-site medical care at DOC facility beginning on Sept. 1, 2018.

Attao and Castro have agreed, among other terms, to make all attempts to schedule an appointment for each of the 14 plaintiffs to be examined and treated by the doctor on or before Sept. 15, 2018.



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TORRES

From Page 1

tourists come in under parole. Our economy needs those tourists. But ever since the Trump administration began, I have been warning parole is on shaky ground. I was ignored. People said 'it's a non-issue [and] a rumor with no foundation.' I wish that were true.

"In February last year, I saw the draft of the presidential executive order that specifically singled out parole in the Marianas for termination. And after 10 years I have enough contacts in Washington to know the briefs and position papers on this issue are still working through the

bureaucracy—all headed to the desk of the Secretary of [the Department of] Homeland Security for a decision."

He added the Trump administration is against parole with the DHS secretary having the discretion of continuing the program or not. "And because any new administration looks at what the previous administration was doing—and decides whether to change it."

"In the case of the Trump administration, if Obama was for it, they are against it. And they have been against it, even before President Trump was sworn in."

Sablan said three Republican senators in the U.S. Congress—Sens. Jeff Sessions, Chuck Grassley, and Mike

Lee—wrote then President Obama's DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson, saying the program violates the prohibition on using parole "to circumvent congressionally established immigration policy" or "to admit aliens who do not qualify for admission under established legal immigration categories."

Obama, however, continued the program but the Senate staff of Sessions and Grassley that helped draft the letter now works at the DHS under Trump's presidency.

Sablan said their position on the program remains the same. "They have not changed their

minds about parole. And now they are in a position to get rid of it. So, losing parole is not a "non-issue" or a "rumor," it is a real possibility."

He added that U.S. Customs and Border Protection Field Operations director Brian J. Humphrey, who is on Saipan, gave him an insider story where the program has always been at the discretion of the DHS secretary.



Sablan

Sablan said the parole program also caused some problems to the CNMI. "We went from 30,000 Chinese tourists in 2009, when parole started, to 230,000 this year. And we all know about the problems

with birth tourism and construction workers coming in as tourists. Parole made that possible."

"The Marianas is the only place in America, where Chinese can come in without any prior paperwork, the director told me, because of parole. Look, I was successful getting parole in the first place—and not just for tourists, but for caregivers, and immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, and others whose standing here was uncertain."

He then asked Torres to use his influence on Trump, since he supported his presidential bid. "I think if we are going to keep parole, then it has to be the governor and his people, who convince the President.

"They supported Trump's election—despite his anti-immigration policies, despite knowing our economy depends on generous immigration. The governor says they have influence with Trump. Now is the time to use it. Before we lose parole."

'Politically motivated rumors'

Torres, however, said the issue is only a politically motivated rumor. "Talk has been circulating regarding the status of the CNMI Discretionary Parole Program and it's nothing more than politically motivated scare tactics aimed at impacting our tourism economy."

"I am saddened that there are those in the community

that would spread a rumor that CBP is in the process of ending this vital program. It's even worse when political candidates use this issue and express concern about the status when all it takes is making a phone call with the CBP or DHS headquarters to verify."

He added that his administration has been in communication with federal agencies involved on the issue. "This past week, my staff and I have been in contact with not only the CBP headquarters in Washington, D.C."

"Also [with] the Department of Interior, [DHS], and the White House. To a person, I was informed that not only is this a rumor, but the status of the program is not even being discussed."

Torres said he's been working with CBP to improve the program. "I have been working with CBP to identify ways to improve the process while ensuring that the laws are being followed, so the CNMI economy can continue to grow with a diversified tourism market. I am committed to doing whatever it takes to keep this valuable program intact."

The news, he added, is because it is an election year. "I fully recognize that political season is upon us, but I am hopeful that all candidates for office refrain from political scare tactics as it only hurts the people of the CNMI that they are trying to represent."

JIANGSU

From Page 1

is a construction company and not a manpower or recruitment agency. Jiangsu neither charges any agency or recruitment fees for any of the workers."

He added that they also met with the authorities to resolve the issue. "Jiangsu is cooperating with federal and local labor officials, and wage and hourly personnel and we're providing them all the information they need. As to their claim of not getting paid, it is simply and manifestly untrue."

The workers, who all entered the CNMI legally using CW-1 work visas, staged their protest yesterday in front of the Garapan casino. On top of overtime pay, they are also demanding for the deposit and recruitment fess that were reportedly promised them by the company. They also claim

that their supposedly two-year contract had been terminated and they were asked to leave the CNMI, with four scheduled to depart today.

Other sources privy to the issue said that Jiangsu's contract with IPI is only for nine months and they have been working on two projects of American Sinopan—the Saipan Garden Resort in Tanapag and Heaven II on Capital Hill.

Torres explained that the workers need to depart the CNMI because their CW-1 visas are about to expire. "They have to leave before the expiration dates, Sept. 12 and 20. If they choose to stay, they have unlawful presence here and hence can't go back to work here on Saipan. We're complying with the law and they have to leave to get renewed."

Jiangsu Provincial is a CNMI construction company based in China. The workers

did construction work at the casino-hotel, while American Sinopan was getting their paperwork done for their own two development projects.

Jiangsu is a subcontractor of a contractor tapped by Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC. An IPI source said they have already paid Jiangsu.

Demands

One of the workers, Wang Yanlin, who spoke through an interpreter, said that Jiangsu was on time in paying their wages of \$50 a day, but they have yet to receive the more than 20,000 yuan (almost \$3,000) promised to them aside from their OT.

"They owe us money. They have not paid our OT and we are now asking to get paid. We work nine hours a day for nine months. Now, they told us that we have to leave," said Wang, who is one of the four workers who

is scheduled to leave today.

The \$50 per day rate mentioned by Wang is only \$5.55 or below the \$7.25 level of the federal minimum wage.

The workers, after the nine-month project at IPI, moved to the two hotels being developed by American Sinopan.

Wang said he and his colleagues were promised that they would get refunds on the fees they paid when they were recruited in China.

IPI officials, sources said, also provided a translator to help communicate with local labor officials in filing their complaint with Jiangsu.

Wang said they were promised a two-year contract, but it was terminated and they were told that they have to go back to China. Chen Qian, Dong Yue Bo, and Chen Tai Bing are the other workers who are scheduled to leave today that's also being shouldered by Jiangsu.

EX-NMC

From Page 1

neither the law nor the diversion agreement support that position.

"Mr. Fejeran has done everything required of him under the agreement," said Zona, adding that it is time for the OAP to comply with its obligations under the agreement so that Fejeran's case may be dismissed and he may move on with his life.

In September 2017, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho suspended the proceedings in the case at the request of the Office of the Attorney General.

Camacho then ordered that the case be taken off-calendar.

In the government's motion to suspend proceedings, a prosecutor disclosed that Fejeran had been accepted into the Adult Diversion Program under the OAP.

That means if the defendant complies with some conditions in the agreement,

the case charging him with one count of theft will be dismissed.

The government alleged that on March 7, 2017, March 10, 2017, May 2, 2017, and May 3, 2017, Fejeran stole gasoline totaling \$183 by using NMC's open fleet card. An Office of the Public Auditor's investigation into the alleged theft led to Fejeran's arrest in May 2017. Fejeran pleaded not guilty.

In a motion filed yesterday, Zona said Fejeran was accepted into the Adult Diversion Program in August 2017.

Zona said there is nothing in the agreement that states that Fejeran needs to continue to be supervised by OAP since he has completed all obligations under the agreement.

The lawyer said Fejeran completed all the terms of the agreement prior to February 2018, with the exception of attending OAP's crime prevention class.

She said Fejeran has had a job since February. As part of his job, he is required to travel.

She said as the OAP still has not scheduled the crime prevention class, Fejeran is still under OAP supervision.

"As a result, the parties entered into a stipulation so that Mr. Fejeran would be able to travel for work purposes," Zona said.

Ultimately, OAP scheduled the crime prevention class for June 7, 14, 21, and 27, 2018 and Fejeran attended and completed this class.

Zona said though OAG initially stated it would dismiss the case, later it indicated it could not because the OAP claimed Fejeran was required to remain in the program.

"No further information was provided," she said.

The lawyer said that last July, Fejeran advised OAP that he was planning a family vacation off-island.

She said the OAP told Fejeran he was required to submit to an "evaluation" before OAP would agree to let him attend the family vacation.

Apparently, Zona said, the "evaluation" was a multiple-

choice test concerning drug and alcohol use.

Since Fejeran has already completed all requirements of his diversion program on June 27, 2018, forcing him to submit to this "evaluation" was at best improper, Zona said.

Fejeran requested that his case be referred for dismissal, but the OAP refused to do so, asserting it had the authority to keep Fejeran in the program for a year, and possibly two years even though he has complied with all obligations.

Zona asserted that there is nothing in either the Commonwealth Code or the agreement itself which warrants the OAP's refusal to refer Fejeran's case for dismissal.

She said Fejeran's case is not an isolated instance of the OAP's refusal to comply with the agreement and the statute.

Zona cited that the OAP has taken the same position in another case involving a defendant who has completed all terms of her diversion program.

NMC

From Page 2

Nakazato who needs an organ transplant in the family. His sister, Koniko, was due for a kidney transplant in June but they had to set that aside.

"I was diagnosed with a kidney condition in November 2015. My mother and I were supposed to fly to the U.S. mainland to get the process of a kidney transplant started but Raymond's condition happened. Our goal now is to get Raymond transported and be situated in a hospital so they can care for him," she said.

"My family has been going through the hardest time trying to prepare for my treatment... and now my brother... The \$150,000 is only enough for one transplant. ...the whole cost actually amounts to \$1.4 million out of pocket...but our priority right now is for my brother to be transported to the [United] States," she added.

Agulto said that Nakazato was supposed to fly back to Saipan last Tuesday. "We were told that his medicine is available here but, honestly, the medicine that he is on right now is temporary. It is just to help his heart pump. The doc-

tors in Guam say if he comes here, it would be considered a death sentence and that's why we need him to be in the mainland to get the proper medical attention and start the process of getting a transplant."

"Once in the States, there are available charities and foundations that can help him. It's just that these organizations cannot help him while he is here. We want people to know that if they see us on the road, night market and Saturday market doing a coin drive, that is for Raymond and Koniko. That's what we want...I know it's a long shot but it's a fighting shot. We love him... he is so young to undergo this ordeal and we want to give him a fighting chance...We fervently hope that the community will help us," she added.

Caroline Agulto and Victoria Bunag can be reached at (670) 789-87-93 and (670) 2866459. You can visit their Facebook Page: "ForBo&ko", GoFundMe site: https://www.gofundme.com/a-mother039s-tears?pc=em_dn_cpgnpg_a&rcid=119f558bed6b477ca382ef27a8673685 and check out their T-shirt collaboration with Tribe Marianas where proceeds will help with Nakazato's medical fund.

NMC starts fall with over 1,200 students

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College opened its doors to over 1,200 students last Wednesday for the start of the fall semester.

NMC's Office of Admissions and Records noted that there are 1,249 fulltime students enrolled this semester. An official from NMC noted that 10 years ago, NMC enrolled 790 students for the same semester.

Although classes at all levels were cancelled on Aug. 20, 2018, due to Typhoon Cima-ron's heavy downpour, NMC pushed through with welcoming students with several activities, including a block party, ice cream social, and other activities led by the Office of Student Activities and Leadership and the student government body.

NMC student Nadia Benjamin, who is currently on her last year, recognizes the hardship that lies ahead.

"I know it's going to be a challenging year ahead, but I know that I will have the support of NMC's staff and faculty to help me succeed," she said.

NMC student and student government president Ken Gabrido said he is working with the other members of the Associated Students of NMC, or the ASNMC, to plan activities for students inside and outside the classroom.

"I truly believe that, as a student and an officer for ASNMC, the leadership skills, and education I get from NMC will help and prepare me as I pursue my long-term goals," said Gabrido.

OPA welcomes two new detectives

A pair of former law enforcers have joined the ranks of official investigators of the Office of the Public Auditor.

Last Wednesday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho swore in OPA investigators Joseph Ogo Jr. and Joshua Genesis Cruz.

The two were briefed about the importance of their new positions and their duties to the community.

"I feel great. Now I can work and carry out my responsibilities as an investigator...I [expect] to fulfill my duties and responsibilities and, as an investigator, I am actually going to be speaking on behalf of the people of the Commonwealth," Ogo said.

When asked about the prerequisites to apply for their position, Ogo said that one should have prior law enforcement experience and pass a written test. **(Kimberly A. Bautista)**



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Triple J does topping ceremony for Surfrider hotel



The Surfrider Resort Hotel, a full-service hotel with 22 rooms that are currently in operation and a total of 50 rooms to be completed, is expected to be fully operational before peak tourist season in 2019.

According to Robert H. Jones, Triple J Enterprises, Inc. board chair, said the hotel, once completed, will include American with Disabilities Act-compliant rooms, executive suites, and a loft-style penthouse seated on top of the Surf Club Restaurant.

The final layout will also incorporate meeting rooms, a fitness center, a state-of-the-

art spa facility, a complimentary laundry room, and over 75 parking stalls.

Equipped with numerous amenities, the Surfrider Resort Hotel provide convenience and comfort for guests while sharing in the *Customer's First* mission of Triple J Enterprises, Inc.

"Although we faced many challenges along the way, we are here today celebrating our accomplishment of the initial stage of the project," said Jones. "We are ready to partner with travel agencies, local businesses and international guests to meet their



needs supporting our tourism industry. I want to thank Dan Murrell, Mario Valentino, and our hard-working construction team. We hope to have our grand opening before Christmas 2018."

The infrastructure of the Surfrider Resort also pays tribute the native Chamorro culture of Saipan with latte stone pillars incorporated in the design—one of many aspects initiated by the team of Triple J.

A top-off ceremony was held last Tuesday, Aug. 21, signifying the completion of the infrastructure phase.

"Each person on the Triple

J team plays an important role—components of our success. As superintendent of Triple J Construction, it is a pleasure to be a contributing member of such a productive and innovative team. I would like to thank the Jones family for their vision, my colleagues for their contribution and our construction team for their tireless efforts," said Valentino, superintendent of Triple J Construction, Triple J Saipan, Inc.

For more information, contact Surfrider Resort Hotel general manager Ryuhei Kono at (670) 235.7873 or email reservations@saipansurfrider-hotel.com. (PR)

Triple J Enterprises, Inc. officials and employees led by board chair Robert H. Jones do a topping-off ceremony last Tuesday, Aug. 21, at the Surfrider Resort Hotel.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



GRANDVRIO RESORT

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INVITATION FOR BID

CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING LOT FOR SISTER REMEDIOS COMMUNITY CENTER

Karidat is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the construction of a parking lot for the Sister Remedios Community Center located on Chalan Kanoa Drive in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan.

Scope of work is available beginning August 23, 2018 at the Karidat Administration Office at the Sister Remedios Community Center. Requests may be sent via email to Judith Pangelinan at judypangelinan@karidat.org.

Questions or requests for clarification must be in writing and addressed to Ms. Judith I. Pangelinan and may be sent via email at judypangelinan@karidat.org no later than September 14, 2018 at 4:00 PM. Response to questions will be no later than September 14, 2018 at 4:00 PM.

The Award of this project is contingent upon final approval the Karidat Board of Directors.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "Sister Remedios Community Center Parking Lot" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the Karidat Administration Office at the Sister Remedios Community Center located on Chalan Kanoa Drive in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan, no later than September 17, 2018 at 10:00 AM, at which time the bids will be publically opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

/s/ Lauri B. Ogumoro
Executive Director

/s/ Judith I. Pangelinan
Administrative Officer



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Propst cautions govt on spending

A minority lawmaker believes the CNMI government should be cautious with its spending, citing possible cash flow problems with the young casino industry of the Commonwealth.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) said he met with Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero, legal counsel Michael Ernest, and some of their staff last June 5 to clarify certain issues concerning the casino-hotel of

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC.

He told *Saipan Tribune* that the meeting did not delve into confidential matters. "I just had some questions for them. As elected officials, we represent the public. We have to speak to the people and be as transparent as possible."

"If there's privileged information that I can't talk about, I won't release it. It was just a meeting with the [CCC] executive director and their

legal counsel."

Among the subjects Propst asked the CCC about was IPI's casino-hotel project being 10th out of 25,000 worldwide on international research provider RepRisk's most controversial projects of 2017. He said the CCC failed to respond to his query.

RepRisk is a Switzerland-based private company that specializes in environmental, social, and corporate governance, and business conduct risks. RepRisk's head office is in Zurich.

Propst said it was a CCC staff who mentioned that IPI is having some problems with their cash flow. He, however, chose not to name the CCC staffer. "I was advised by [CCC] that taxing the casino [gaming] is not a

good time because they have cash flow problems. [IPI] is having trouble collecting their debts and everything."

"That's very concerning when [CCC] told me that [IPI] is having difficulty. If something happens, we're not prepared for it."

Dependent on casino

Propst added that the signs should not be ignored and CNMI officials should be concerned about the way things are going on with IPI's multi-million dollar project. "We see the fact that the [chief executive officer] left and one week later another member of the board of directors resigned."

CEO Marco Teng resigned as IPI chair last week; a few days ago Cai Lingli stepped down as director of the com-

pany and chair of the executive committee. Cai is a relative of majority owner Cui Li Jie.

"These are telltale signs of a company in trouble. The fact that they weren't able to pay their vendors is a huge concern. Because, if a company is profitable and doing well, they won't have cash flow problems and they won't have any problems paying their bills on time."

"If we say and do nothing, and just continue to pretend everything is great, what if something happens down the road and we're not prepared for it? Because of these signs, all the more reason why we should cancel the 80-percent salary increases and the big salary increases of the Cabinet. We must be

very cautious on spending."

Propst said that the CNMI has become dependent on the casino-hotel. "We must be careful with all the travel that's going on, and the government purchasing new cars left and right. We became so dependent on the casino-hotel for paying all of our bills."

"If something happens, we're not prepared. What we can do, to know what's going on, is we should have an open and honest discussion. Do we look at other potential licenses to come in? Open up so there's competitors?"

"We're the only place I know that allows only one casino. If we're going to do the casino, let's do it the right way. Macau, the Philippines, Singapore, and Las Vegas have competitors. Here on Saipan, we only have one." (Jon Perez)

SHEFA gains in number of applications

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance noted in yesterday's board meeting significant gains in scholarship application numbers compared to last year, as well as quantitative increases across the board.

Administrator Merissa Rasa reported to SHEFA board members yesterday the increase in the number of applicants this 2018 fall semester, with 1,055 applicants compared to last year's 853 applicants for the same semester.

So far this year, SHEFA approved 501 applicants, denied 42, and have 512 applications pending.

The agency noted 404 new applicants, 532 ongoing applicants, and 119 returning scholarship applicants. A total of 647 are on-island, 325 are

off-island, while 83 are enrolled online.

Sixteen SHEFA applicants are enrolled at the Northern Marianas Trades Institute.

Rasa noted that, of the total number of applicants, 493 are college freshmen, 243 are college sophomores, 158 are college juniors, and 62 are college seniors, while there are 76 master's degree applicants and 23 advance, doctorate, and juris doctorate applicants.

Rasa noted that there are 450 associate degree students, 488 bachelor's degree students, 76 master's degree students, and 23 doctoral degree students. No one is enrolled for the Prior Learning Assessment; 223 of the total number of applicants were 2018 high school graduates. (Erwin Encinares)

\$10k bail for registered sex offender

A man who was released on probation after an alleged sex abuse of a minor incident was arrested again for allegedly violating the conditions of his probation.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho issued a warrant last Aug. 22 for the arrest of registered sex offender Frank Kaneshi, for allegedly violating the terms of his probation by having a minor spend a night with him.

Kaneshi was arrested for offenses involving victims who

are minors.

Camacho set Kaneshi's bail yesterday at \$10,000. He is set to be arraigned at the U.S. District Court on Sept. 10, and will be represented by Doug Hartig of the Public Defender's Office.

According to an officer of the Department of Public Safety, Kaneshi was arrested during a compliance check on Aug. 13 by the CNMI Sex Offender Task Force and the U.S. Marshal after finding Kaneshi with his girlfriend's 2-year-old child in his apart-

ment in As Lito.

When asked if he knows that he is prohibited from being around any minor, Kaneshi said yes.

Kaneshi later stated that the child stayed overnight with him and his girlfriend.

Back in June 22, 2011, Kaneshi pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree and is under probation.

Kaneshi is currently registered with the CNMI Sex Offender Registry as a tier 3 sex offender. (Kimberly A. Bautista)

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STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Students sign up for athletics at Mount Carmel School's annual Student Activities Fair last Wednesday, Aug. 22. Over 300 middle school and high school students participated in the fair, signing up for various extracurricular activities available at the school.

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Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 30,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$1,198	\$1,098
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 36,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$1,698	\$1,598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 48,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$2,498	\$2,398
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 9,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 20.5 FREON R410	\$698	\$598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 12,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 18.4 FREON R410	\$798	\$698
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 18,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 18.3 FREON R410	\$1,198	\$998
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 24,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 20.9 FREON R410	\$1,598	\$1,398
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 30,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 18.8 FREON R410	\$1,798	\$1,598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 36,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 17.3 FREON R411	\$1,998	\$1,798
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2. Disconnect box / elect breaker. Not included.
3. Concrete slab for out-door unit (if needed) not included.
NOTE/REM: OVER BASIC INSTALLATION LABOR & MATERIAL (S) IS NOT
INCLUDED IN THIS QUOTE.

Torres says unfounded
rumors only hurt CNMI

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres issued a statement yesterday to belie rumors that the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency is in the process of ending the CNMI Discretionary Parole Program, saying this rumor is “politically motivated.”

“Talk has been circulating regarding the status of the CNMI Discretionary Parole Program and it’s nothing more than politically motivated scare tactics aimed at impacting our tourism economy,” Torres said.

His office describes the program as “vital” to the CNMI economy.

“I am saddened that there are those in the community that would spread a rumor that this vital program,” Torres said. “It’s even worse when political candidates use this issue and express concern about the status when all it takes is making a phone call with the CBP headquarters or [Department of Homeland Security] headquarters to verify.”

“This past week, my staff and I have been in contact with not only the CBP headquarters in Washington, D.C., but also the Department of Interior, Department of Homeland Security, and the White House.

“To a person, I was informed that not only is this a rumor, but the status of the program is not even being discussed,” Torres said.

“Since the beginning of the Trump administration, I have been working with the CBP to identify ways to improve the process while ensuring that the laws are being followed, so the CNMI economy can continue to grow with a diversified tourism market. I am committed to doing whatever it takes to keep this valuable program intact.

“I fully recognize that political season is upon us, but I am hopeful that all candidates for office refrain from political scare tactics as it only hurts the people of the CNMI that they are trying to represent.” (PR)

Mayor’s office ready to aid DPW with clearing flood

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With plans to enlarge Saipan’s sidewalk pipes still unclear, the Saipan Mayor’s Office looks at working with the Department of Public Works for now in getting rid of floods that result from increased rainfall on the island.

With Typhoon Soulik and Typhoon Cimaron passing through the Marianas back-to-back this week, Saipan experienced heavy rainfall for several days, resulting in floods in several areas, including in Garapan.

Although the Saipan Mayor’s Office is in charge of beautifying the island, Mayor David M. Apatang clarified with *Saipan Tribune* that drainages are a jurisdiction of DPW.

Despite that, however, Apatang reiterates that his office is ready to assist DPW if needed.

“If DPW needs our help, we work with them. That is their responsibility—all the drainage. You can see them going around clearing the drain-

ages everyday and during the storm,” Apatang said. “We are always willing to assist in any way we can. If we see that there is something that needs to be done, we do it—we don’t wait for anybody.”

On Monday, when the Governor’s Office first issued typhoon warnings because of Cimaron, the Mayor’s Office was fully activated to clear debris.

“All crews were mobilized and divided into the northern, central, and southern areas of Saipan. They focused on picking up green waste—branches, fallen trees, etc.,” noted Joann T. Aquino, Apatang’s director of field operations.

“We were just filling up trailers as much as we can and going around until the Marpi Landfill was opened,” she said, adding that the landfill was closed around 12:30pm that day.

Aquino noted that the Mayor’s Office mobilized their backhoe, their dump truck, and their claw truck. She was not able to provide the total tonnage of the collected debris.

Seminar strengthens influenza monitoring

SUVA, Fiji—A sub-regional training workshop for health surveillance and laboratory professionals aiming at strengthening influenza surveillance in the Pacific was recently held in Suva, Fiji.

Surveillance and laboratory professionals from 13 Pacific countries, together with regional experts, reviewed existing national systems, identified challenges and discussed ways to strengthen the syndromic and virological surveillance of influenza.

The five-day training workshop, which took place on Aug. 6-10, was organized by the Pacific Community, together with Fiji Centre for Communicable Disease Control, WHO and the Pacific Paramedical Training Centre. It was held under the framework of the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network, with financial support from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. (SPC)



Gubernatorial independent candidate Juan N. Babauta, with his back to the camera, speaks during a get-together at a restaurant in Union City, California last Tuesday. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Babauta on a 5-stop campaign sortie in US

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Independent gubernatorial candidate Juan N. Babauta is currently in the U.S. mainland for a five-stop campaign sortie for the Nov. 6 general election.

Babauta, who is with his wife Charlene and Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota), made the first stop in Union City last Sunday, where he met hundreds of people at Tomi's Seafood Buffet.

Babauta's running mate, Dr. Rita A. Sablan, did not join the campaign.

Vince Pangelinan, the social media chairman for the Babauta-Sablan team, said yesterday that Sablan has been doing house-to-house campaigns on Saipan and Tinian.

After meeting with 326 people in Union City, California, Babauta proceeded to San Diego, California last Tuesday, where he had a get-together with the people at Natsumi Restaurant.

Babauta will meet people at Adobo Restaurant along Washington Square Road in Tigard, Oregon tomorrow, Saturday. He will then go Washington State on Sunday for a gathering at a residence.

Babauta's last stop will be at a restaurant in Boise, Idaho on Monday, Aug. 27.

Pangelinan said the former governor is happy with the good reception he has gotten from people in the U.S. mainland.

Lucille Camacho Hilario, organizer of Babauta's NorCal

visit, said there were 326 people altogether at the gathering in Union City.

Hilario said some CNMI voters drove from as far as Eureka, California, which is 4 1/2 hours away from Tomi's Seafood Buffet.

"We were overwhelmed to see how much CNMI people care about what's happening in our home," she said.

Hilario said they extended the event in Union City for one hour and 35 minutes as the people wanted to spend more time.

"Even after almost two hours, we continued discussion outside [the restaurant]," she said.

To their delight, Hilario said, the Filipino community around California also came to attend.

Governor to deliver SOCA today

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will deliver his second State of the Commonwealth Address today, Aug. 24, 2018, at 10am ChST at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The 2018 State



Torres

of the Commonwealth Address will air live on the CNMI Office of the Governor Facebook page and on the Northern Marianas College Facebook page. The event starts

promptly at 10am Chamorro standard time.

A special enhanced live stream is provided through a collaboration between the Northern Marianas College, IT&E, and the CNMI Office of the Governor.

KKMP CNMI will also be airing the event live on 92.1 FM on the radio. (PR)

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FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DESIGN/BUILD FOR THE MAIN PARKING LOT EXPANSION AND STORM WATER DRAIN REHABILITATION PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-004-15

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting for sealed proposals for the design and construction to expand the main parking lot at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and rehabilitate the storm water drainage. The work shall include all design, materials, labor and equipment necessary to achieve a finished product, including but not limited to the items in the scope of work and those shown on the layout.

The Scope of Work (SOW) may be picked up at the CPA Administration Office at no cost. Project approach and cost must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package.

A site visit may be requested by each proposer and will be coordinated with the CPA Engineering Department at telephone number 670-237-6500 or fax number 670-664-3533. Questions shall be submitted in writing to Ms. Wendi Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager via hand delivery to the CPA Administration Office, via fax at 670-664-3533 or via email at wprater@cpa.gov.mp or cpa.engr@pticom.com by no later than close of business on **Friday, August 24, 2018**. All responses to questions or requests for information will be provided to all proposers who have picked up a proposal package.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 40-50-225. Criteria for scoring proposals and proposal submission requirements are detailed in **Section XII, PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**, of the Scope of Work.

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

One original and four (4) copies of the proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"Proposal for Main Parking Lot Expansion and Storm Water Drainage Rehabilitation at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, CPA-SA-004-15"**. Proposals must be submitted no later than **5:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2018**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Upon award, contractor shall execute performance and payment bonds for 100% of the contract amount from a CPA approved surety prior to commencement of work.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: August 8, 2018

CUC has 54 contracts worth \$149.3M

The aggregate amount for all 54 project contracts with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. as of last June is approximately \$149,329,642, according to CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho.

In documents filed before the U.S. District Court for the NMI, Camacho disclosed that in June 2018, 54 contracts were monitored wherein 49 are active projects while five are in-processing as new con-

tracts or as change orders to current contracts.

CUC's water-wastewater division has 21 contracts, which is the highest number among the divisions.

Camacho said the 21 contracts are worth approximately \$7.3 million.

CUC's power generation has 12 contracts, but according to Camacho, it has the highest amount with a sum of about \$135 million.

Camacho said there are 17 contracts funded by grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Insular Affairs, and others.

He said 37 contracts are funded by CUC.

Camacho said the contracts funded by grants represent 8.2 percent of the grand total amount. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

MANGO hosts conference for NMI non-profits

The Marianas Alliance for Non-Governmental Organizations, in partnership with the Office of Minority Health Resource Center, is hosting its annual "Nonprofit Capacity Building Conference" on Wednesday, Aug. 29, and Thursday, Aug. 30.

The purpose of the conference is to connect nonprofit leaders and advocates to resources that will ultimately help them build capacity for their mission-critical operations.

MANGO invites all nonprofit employees, board members, and volunteers who are interested in increasing their organization's capacity to attend.

Registration is on Wednesday and Thursday, from 7:30am to 8am.

Session 1 on Wednesday,

Aug. 29, will take up board development: roles and responsibilities from 8am to 12pm. Session 2 from 1pm to 4pm is about board stewardship: fiscal responsibility.

Session 3 on Thursday, Aug. 30, from 8am to noon, is about fundraising and resource development. Session 4 from 1pm to 4pm is about program management.

Participation in each session is free, and lunch is provided to participants who attend two sessions per day. Registration is limited to 30 participants per session. Only two participants per nonprofit organization can register per session.

RSVP as soon as possible; registration closes at 12pm on Tuesday, Aug. 28, but seats will fill up quickly. RSVP by emailing cnmimango@gmail.com.

MANGO's principal purpose is to serve as an umbrella organization and resource for CNMI non-profits to promote and provide leadership, advocacy, educational awareness, and technical assistance to its members and the community. MANGO was chartered and licensed by the CNMI Corporate Registrar in December 2010, and is the umbrella entity for all NGOs in the NMI.

MANGO is also a member of PIANO, or the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organization, a coalition of islanders dedicated to "strengthening and building the capacity of the civil society sector."

For more information, email cnmimango@gmail.com, call Frances Sablan at 287-9274, or call Maxine Laszlo at 285-7739. **(PR)**



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-011-18

PROCUREMENT, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF SECURITY CAMERAS AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM PORT OF SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement, installation & commissioning of security cameras and surveillance systems at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Proposal Package and other considerations will be available for pick up beginning August 17, 2018 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement, Installation & Commissioning of Security Cameras and Surveillance System, Port of Saipan, Project No. CPA-RFP-011-18". One original and three copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, SEPTEMBER 14, 2018 to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. All Proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at the CPA Seaport Conference Room located at the Port of Saipan on August 31, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Attendance at this pre-proposal conference is mandatory and only those vendors present at the pre-proposal conference will be allowed to submit proposals. A site visit will be conducted immediately after the conference or may be requested by making appointments with the CPA Ports Manager, Rodney James Taisacan to ensure that proposers submitting a proposal are aware of the general area where the surveillance cameras and systems are to be installed.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejections or cancellations; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

This Project is funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA) CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP NO.: CPA-RFP-001-19

PASSENGER LOADING BRIDGE MAINTENANCE SERVICE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT/PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-001-19

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is requesting proposals from qualified and experienced companies, corporations, and/or firms to provide the CPA with Passenger Loading Bridge Maintenance Services. The Executive Director determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the CPA because the CPA wishes to acquire services and or products that cannot be evaluate by cost alone (NMIAC § 40-50-225(a)).

All works shall take place at the Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Proposal Package is available for pick-up beginning August 24, 2018, at the Executive Director's Office, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan Int. Airport. The proposer shall guarantee that all contents of their proposal shall be valid for a period of 90 calendar days from the due date of proposals.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will take place on September 12, 2018 at 10:00 AM at the CPA conference room, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building for questions and/or clarifications on this project. Proposals will only be accepted from those proposers who attended this meeting.

Proposers are to submit one (1) original and two (2) copies of their proposals to the Office of the Executive Director no later than 4:00 PM, September 21, 2018.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (the "NMIAC"). Title 40, including chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects of said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

From left to right, Mikki Kautz and Wayne Dawe of Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance; Marian Aldan-Pierce, DFS Saipan Limited division president; Milan Rabold, general manager; and Esther Ada, Human Resources manager of DFS Saipan; Sean Frink, MINA board member; and Ben Babauta, AGM Support, DFS Saipan.

MINA

DFS Saipan signs on as sponsor of Green Gala

DFS Saipan Limited became the latest title sponsor for the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's Green Gala, set for Sept. 14, 2018, at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

The funds raised at the gala will support the many programs that MINA conducts throughout the year, such as their outreach programs that educate children and the community about the importance of a healthy coral reef and the serious effects that littering has on the islands' limited natural resources.

Marian Aldan-Pierce, division president of DFS Saipan Limited, stated that "DFS is proud to be a sponsor of MINA, the only organization we have, whose sole function is to protect our environment. As corporate

citizens, it is our duty to support entities like MINA to ensure that future generations can enjoy our natural resources as we do today."

Sean Frink, a board member for MINA, thanked DFS Saipan for their annual sponsorship of MINA's fundraising efforts: "It is this recognition by DFS Saipan of MINA's efforts to continue to spread the word out that our natural resources are all we have, and we need to do everything to protect them for those who will come after us. Our Tasi Watch rangers are out there every day, doing just that."

Tickets for the Gala are on sale now, and going fast, so guests are encouraged to purchase theirs early. Call MINA at 233-7333 for more information. (MINA)

8 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged eight Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites include the Wing Beach, Aqua Resort Club beach, Tanapag Meeting Hall beach, Central Repair Shop beach, Garapan Fishing Dock, American Memorial Park beach, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan beach,

and Sugar Dock.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)



3rd Annual We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes

17th Anniversary of September 11th

This event is for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to come together in solidarity to remember those who have perished; and to honor our HEROES that responded to save the many lives during this attack and who are still battling our fight against terrorism.

Save the dates

• SAIPAN - AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK

September 9th - Posting of flags

September 11th - Freedom Walk at 5:00 pm

Start: Garapan Fishing Base

End: American Memorial Park

9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site

September 17th - Retiring of flags beginning 8:00 am

• TINIAN - VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

September 3rd - Posting of flags

September 11th - 9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site at 5:00 pm

September 17th - Retiring of flags

• ROTA - JOAQUIN OGO BASEBALL FIELD

September 7th - Posting of flags

September 10th - 9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site at 5:00 pm

September 22nd - Retiring of flags

Shirt and Flag Orders

• Saipan

Shirley's Coffee Shop, Garapan & Susupe
2nd Floor, JP Center, Garapan

• Tinian

Tinian Mayor's Office - Mr. Joseph Hocog (Contact no. 433-1800)

• Rota

Hotel Valentino Front Desk
Rota Mayor's Office - Ms. Aubry Hocog



By becoming a sponsor or making a donation, you will help in our efforts in providing Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder support locally.

For every \$10 donation, sponsor a 3'x5' American flag in honor/memory of a community hero.



For every \$15 donation, receive a free event shirt.

For more information please contact the Corporate Affairs office (670)235-0561 ext 100/116 corporate_affairs@tanholdings.com
Tan Siu Lin Foundation

Special Thanks to our Sponsors

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/DPLCNMI/

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Department of Public Lands (DPL) would like to inform the general public that our office will be closed on

Monday, August 27, 2018

for staff Professional Development Day.
Our office will resume its normal operations on
Tuesday, August 28, 2018.

Thank you for your understanding and
sorry for any inconveniences.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-18-030

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE POWER POLES (FEMA Water System Mitigation Project)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from FEMA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$100.00** for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-18-030, Supply & Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 7, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from FEMA and the CUC, Board of Directors.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Adrian Reyes, CUC Power Division, Jr. Engineer via email address-adrian.reyes@cucgov.org, Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water Division, Jr. Engineer via email address-yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address - christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

'Bisita Luta' to feature fishing, fiesta, more

Rota is gearing up to welcome visitors for three days of festivities during *Bisita Luta* on Oct. 4-6, 2018.

Bisita Luta, or "Visit Rota," will feature a fiesta, a fishing



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Fishing base boat ramp closed on Saturday

The Garapan Fishing Base boat ramp will be closed to the public all day tomorrow, Aug. 25, 2018, for the staging of the CNMI Labor Day celebration. The Department of Lands and Natural Resources advises the public to use the Smiling Cove Marina, the Lower Base Sea Ramp, or Sugar Dock in Su-supe until after the completion of the festivities. (PR)

Guam Guard airmen on Tinian

Airmen from the Guam Air National Guard's 254th Red Horse Squadron are working to increase the size of the current 30' x 30' helicopter pad, just outside the Tinian Health Clinic, to a 50' x 50' in order to accommodate larger helicopters in the event of an emergency evacuation. The project is part of an Innovative Readiness Training Program on Tinian. (PR)

derby and more on the island renowned among the Marianas for its untouched natural beauty and warm island hospitality.

"*Bisita Luta* is a series of festivities that my office and staff plan and prepare to get our people and tourists excited in preparation for our annual fiesta celebration of our patron saint, San Francisco de Borja. We are excited to welcome visitors from our neighboring islands and from afar to come to Rota and celebrate with us," said Rota Mayor

Efraim M. Atalig.

Most festivities will take place at Chamorro Village Park in Songsong. On Oct. 4, Thursday, there will be a night market and street dance competition at 6:30pm. Fishermen participating in the next day's Bud Light Fishing Derby will have an orientation in the evening.

The Bud Light Fishing Derby will kick off the following day, Oct. 5, hosted by Ambros Inc. This program welcomes fisher men and women from

Rota, Guam, and Saipan who continue to participate in an annual basis. That evening, *Bisita Luta* festivities include the Rota Wildlife Showcase, *Bisita Luta* Food Competition, and a *Bisita Luta* Concert that will feature bands from Guam and Saipan that will surely liven up the event grounds filled with dancing, great food, and lots of fun!

In honor of Songsong's patron saint, the San Francisco de Borja Fiesta Mass will be held on Oct. 6, Saturday, at

San Francisco de Borja Parish, followed by dinner and entertainment. The Bud Light Fishing Derby will conclude that day, with awards presented at the fiesta grounds.

"*Bisita Luta* is already well-known in Guam, Saipan, and Tinian as one of the best times of the year to visit Rota, and people usually return with mouthwatering tales of all the island delicacies they sampled there, not to mention Rota's renowned island hospitality," said Marianas Visitors

Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "The MVA is pleased to support the Rota community in hosting this extraordinary annual event. We are especially pleased with the advanced planning being made, and we are sharing those details with our offshore offices to entice more international visitors to come and have a truly authentic cultural experience in Rota during *Bisita Luta*."

The weekend event is being organized by the Rota Mayor's Office with support from Rota Municipal Council, and Rota Legislative Delegation, in partnership with the San Francisco de Borja Fiesta Committee and Parish Council.

MVA members offering hotel and car rentals are Rota Resort & Country Club (1 (670) 532-1155), Valentino Hotel (1 (670) 532-8466), and Islander Car Rental (1 (670) 532-0901). Additional accommodations are provided by Coral Garden Hotel, Bay View Hotel, Sunrise Motel, and Bed & Breakfast.

For more information, contact special assistant for Programs and grants Aubry Hocog of the Rota Mayor's Office at 1 (670) 532-9451 or aubryhocog@gmail.com or field operations supervisor Sandra Atalig of the MVA at 1 (670) 532-0327 or satalig@mymarianas.com. (MVA)



Award-winning Teteto Beach and other unspoiled scenery await visitors for Bisita Luta (Visit Rota) on Oct. 4-6, 2018. The event will feature a fiesta, fishing tournament, and other festivities and is organized by the Rota Mayor's Office and sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority. MVA



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DPW18-RFP-009

DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE OF THE MARPO HEIGHTS II PAVING, TINIAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works are soliciting sealed proposals for the **Design and Environmental Clearance of the Marpo Heights II Paving, Tinian** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated 2004 Ed. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **\$70-30.3-305** of the regulations.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Esther S. Fleming, Executive Director, at (670) 234-5897/5898 or fax (670) 234-6040.

The Scope of Work is available on or after **August 24, 2018** at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office No. 214, Saipan.

A Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time **September 12, 2018** at the **Tinian Mayor Office** Conference Room. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **September 21, 2018**.

SELECTION CRITERIA: This procurement is made in accordance with **\$70-30.3-305** of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, 2004 ed. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff – 25%
2. Experience of the firm(s) on similar type projects – 25%
3. Project Approach – 35%
4. Schedule of Completion – 15%

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. Fee proposals are solicited; however, this information shall not be considered in the selection of the most highly qualified Firms. Fee proposals may be used in determining a fair and reasonable price.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (résumés and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, *cannot* submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Sealed proposals must be marked "**DPW18-RFP-009**". For Proposers within the CNMI, one original and nine (9) copies of proposals must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **September 26, 2018** to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **September 26, 2018**, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For Proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 26, 2018** AND must be received no later than **October 5, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for the project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

PETER P. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply



Learn About How to Write a Business Plan and CDA Small Business Financing Programs

This seminar will cover all of the elements to be included in a business plan & explain with examples what is required in each section. The focus of the seminar will be the three M's – Money, Management, & Marketing. Participants will also be provided with a sample business plan, sources of industry research information, and introduced to online business planning tools that are accessible at any time through an internet-enabled PC.

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) is here to give you ideas on DCD Loan Programs:

- Whether or not you are eligible,
- What are the allowable loan purposes, and
- What they will look at when they receive an application.

Commonwealth Development Authority provides appropriate financial and technical expansion of private and public enterprises for their success, the benefit of the Commonwealth's economic welfare and the long term sustainability of the CDA.

CDA is committed to providing financing for commercial, agriculture, and fishing ventures.

For more information, contact 670 664-3018 or visit our website at pacificsbdc.com

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Wednesday,
August 29, 2018

Free Training!
9:30am – 11:30am

TINIAN
Tinian Public Library

Presented by:



Nicole Babauta
CNMI SBDC
Business Advisor/Director



Jonathan SN. Sablan
CDA
Administrative Specialist II

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Trump's terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day

We'll leave it to history to sort out President Donald Trump's legacy, but Tuesday was an infamous afternoon.

Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, was found guilty of eight counts of fraud in a Virginia courthouse, while his former attorney, Michael Cohen, pleaded guilty to eight criminal counts in New York. Cohen's plea includes a claim that he paid hush money to two women "at the direction of a candidate for federal office." That candidate was Trump.

Two of Trump's trusted advisers, different members of his team, exposed as criminals in a single day. What rings in the ears is the boast Trump made during the campaign that "I'm going to surround myself only with the best and most serious people."

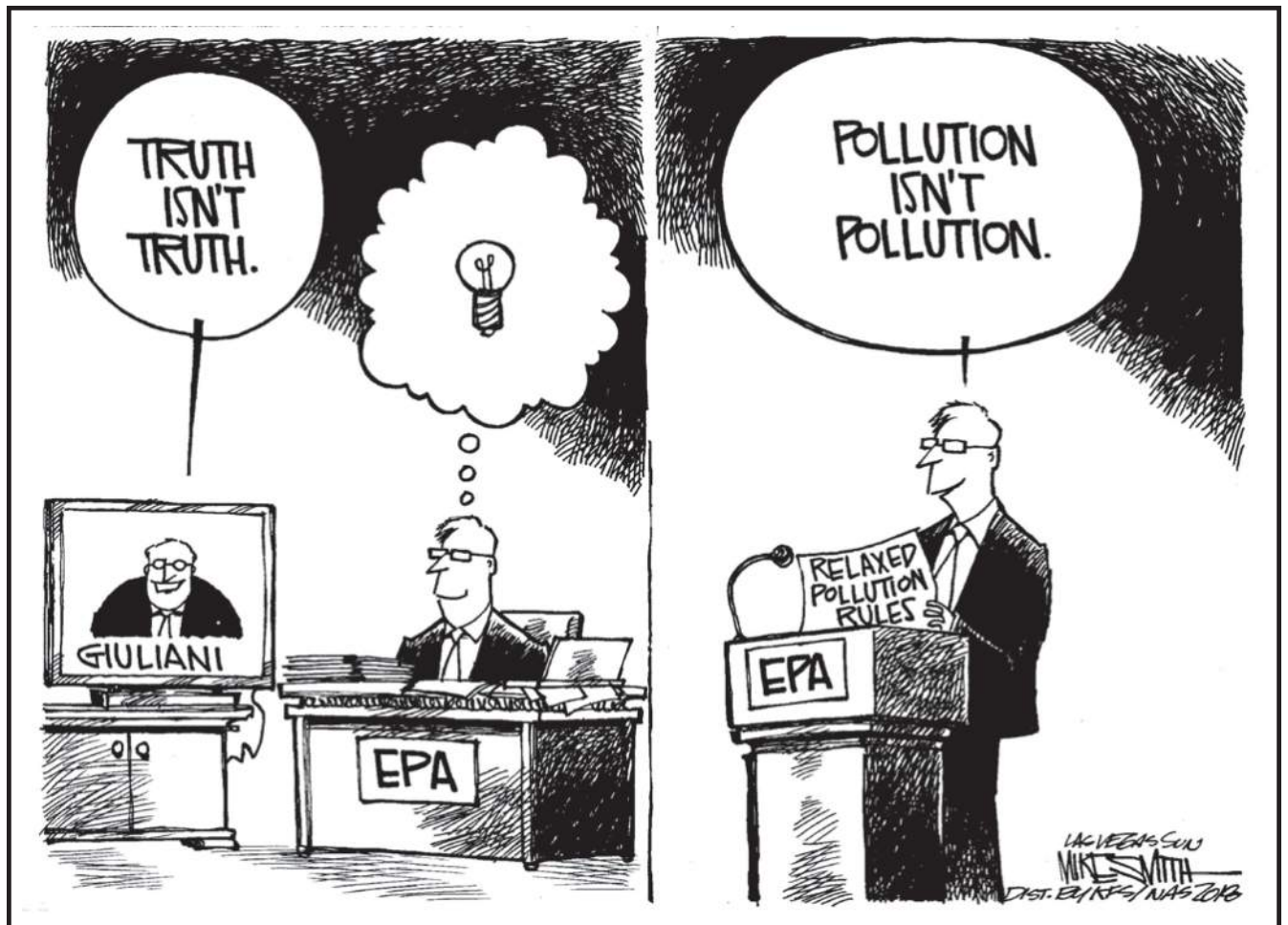
What sticks in the craw is the unseemly edge to Trump's personality: his vicious Twitter attacks of political foes, his angry rants to campaign crowds and the 2005 recording of his ugly talk about assaulting women. Now there is Cohen's salacious tale, acknowledged in his guilty plea, that he violated campaign laws by paying money to two women to keep stories of alleged affairs with Trump out of the news before the 2016 election. The two women were identified in news reports as adult film actress Stormy Daniels and Playboy model Karen McDougal.

In the 19 months of Trump's presidency, a parade of administration members has left under a cloud. Former White House national security adviser Michael Flynn pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI about conversations with a Russian diplomat. Scott Pruitt, head of the Environmental Protection Agency, resigned amid numerous ethics investigations. These things shouldn't happen, but they do, during every administration. We get the link between power and corruption. We live in Chicago.

For Trump and more of his "best people," the story is still unfolding in the guise of the Russia investigation. Special counsel Robert Mueller is probing Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election and whether Trump committed obstruction by trying to shut down the probe. We await Mueller's conclusions. Other developments have come from Mueller's investigation, including Manafort's conviction on fraud charges related to his business activities in Ukraine and Cohen's case, which was handed off to federal prosecutors in New York.

Two cases against Trump advisers in one afternoon, while Mueller's independent investigation continues. Tuesday was not the final word on Trump's presidency. But it spoke volumes.

(c)2018 Chicago Tribune



Put less data online

Microsoft Corp.'s announcement that it has taken down a number of fake domains set up by the same cyber-espionage group that allegedly hacked the Democratic National Committee in 2016 shows Russia's interest in U.S. politics isn't ebbing. More importantly, it highlights that the methods these malicious actors have been using since well before the 2016 U.S. election can still be effective.

In a blog post signed by Microsoft President Brad Smith, the company said it had obtained a court order to take over six internet domains set up by "a group widely associated with the Russian government and known as Strontium, or alternatively Fancy Bear or APT28." That's the group described in a recent indictment obtained by Special Counsel Robert Mueller as consisting of Russian military intelligence officers.

The domains, according to Microsoft, were used in a spear phishing campaign targeting two Republican think tanks, the International Republican Institute and Hudson Institute, as well as the U.S. Senate. Microsoft said it had taken down 84 Strontium-linked websites in the last two years. The software-maker's knowledge of the hackers' operating mode goes back even further: It was described in a company report in November, 2015.

The document detailed two phases of a typical Strontium operation. First, employees of an organization of interest are bombarded with emails, purportedly from a software provider such as Microsoft or Google, warning of an unauthorized attempt to log into an account and providing a link to change a password. Those lead users to fake websites like the ones Microsoft has taken down.

Even if the targets don't swallow the bait and enter their credentials, the impostor site harvests data about their browser, extensions used, computer's IP address, operating system and other particulars by which we're tracked across the internet. These data can then be used to launch other attacks, from more targeted spear phishing emails to attacks based on vulnerabilities in specific software.

Some of these weaknesses have already been fixed, but the attackers know that far from everyone installs security patches as soon as they are issued. Others are "zero-days" – vulnerabilities as yet unknown to software companies.

The Mueller indictment says the Russian intelligence officers were successful in harvesting the login credentials of some DNC employees. Even if they had been less credulous, their computers could have been hacked using vulnerabilities in the software they use.

If there's anything more naive than entering your email password into a phishing website, it's believing that spies, Russian and otherwise, will stop hacking into U.S. political operators' and think-tankers' computers just because of a hullabaloo about an attack on American democracy, an indictment or two and a threat of economic sanctions. Knowing what the adversary is thinking and planning will still be important no matter how

By LEONID BERSHIDSKY
Bloomberg News

Leonid Bershidsky is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering European politics and business. He was the founding editor of the Russian business daily Vedomosti and founded the opinion website Slon.ru..



many times spies get caught and what potential repercussions follow, short of nuclear war.

In the particular cases described in Smith's post, a Russian interest would be understandable. The IRI counts prominent Russia hawks such as Senators John McCain, Lindsey Graham and Marco Rubio among its board members. The Hudson Institute's top Russia expert is veteran journalist David Satter, banned from the country in 2014, when he was working as a consultant to Radio Liberty.

If Mueller is right about APT28 hackers holding military rank, this is the intelligence service known by its old name, the GRU, doing research on Russia's perceived enemies. Party affiliation doesn't matter for such an effort; any U.S. political operator or expert voicing what the regime in Moscow sees as anti-Russian views is likely to be targeted.

In a way, the Trump-Russia scandal has expanded the spies' area of interest because so many U.S. politicians who formerly showed little interest in Russia have now weighed in. Russian intelligence's interest won't wane after this year's midterm campaign is over; the line between intelligence-gathering and election meddling through the release of compromising information is thin.

That's what makes it especially alarming that methods from 2015 are still in use. After years of being told repeatedly not to click on any email links without knowing exactly where they lead, many in the U.S. political community will still do so.

Microsoft's answer is a service called Microsoft AccountGuard, which provides cybersecurity to "organizations that underpin democracy."

None of this, however, will thwart the occasional click on a malicious link, much less a zero-day attack. What will is a technique used by Emmanuel Macron's campaign during the 2017 French presidential election: his team simply refrained from putting sensitive information on email or online.

Good old paper-based and oral communication works fine and requires much more effort to spy on. When Macron's campaign was, inevitably, hacked, the thieves didn't find anything politically useful or important about Macron or his team.

For those the Russian regime considers hostile, a little old-fashioned paperwork will be key to maintaining privacy.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Classic rock

The long arm of the past has a way of tapping us on the shoulder sometimes. This week was one such time. News on the pop culture front noted that an album by the Eagles (*Their Greatest Hits 1971-1975*) has claimed the status of being the best-selling album of all time.

Taking 1971 as a point of reference, we're talking about, yikes, 47 years ago.

I don't know where the line of demarcation for "classic rock" begins, but I guess in rough terms the genre is at least 50 years old now if we measure from the beginning.

Some rock songs are far older than you might suspect. For example, a few weeks ago I heard Black Sabbath's *Iron Man* on the radio. There's nothing dated about that wild song, at least to my ears, but, in fact, it came out in 1970.

The scary thing here in 2018 is that any random excursion across the radio dial can deliver a song that makes your brain go *poof* and quantum-leap itself backwards by a half-century.

As for those old Eagles songs, for those who remember that far back, a few of them were *Take it Easy*, *Lyin' Eyes*, and *One*

of These Nights. I remember this fare getting played on rock stations and on country stations.

The Eagles weren't the only act getting play on both the rock and the country stations. In 1973, *Uneasy Rider*, by Charlie Daniels, which was essentially a rap song (it was spoken, not sung; does that make it rap?) got a lot of attention in the rock and country realms as well. Many of my pals can recite it from memory, more or less, as long as you're buying the drinks.

The Charlie Daniels Band compilation *A Decade of Hits* came out in 1983 and it was very popular in the country genre.

Back in the rock world, by the '80s, the New Wave scene was well-established on the West Coast, and this seemed to give rock an extra dose of energy and, in posterity, extra longevity. Not that the West Coast launched all the bands. Ohio and Georgia were also important sources of talent on this front.

When it comes to pop culture music, as opposed to church music (I was in the choir) and classical music (I played in a youth symphony), I associate it with the radio I heard before high school, then high school parties, college parties, and youthful road trips. So the window was about 15 years wide. The CDs I buy on occasion are to replace ones that I've lost or that have gone bad from age. Gee, you know you're getting old when you're outliving CDs.

The longevity of some of these acts is remarkable. Aerosmith, which released their first album in 1972, is still performing, with front man Steven Tyler still serving as heartthrob for several generations of groupies, including, notably, my wife and her friends. Aerosmith has already inked performance dates for next year in Las Vegas.

Back on the CD note, I first heard about CDs in the early '80s,

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



but it was several years before I bought a CD player. CDs were a big deal back then, and newer models of players were always being unveiled and advertised.

I knew an engineer who bought a player that could hold something like 100 CDs. He then bought CDs to replace, at least to the extent possible, his motley array of cassettes and vinyl records. It seemed like a great idea at the time. However, the CD player was persnickety, difficult to operate, and far beyond the ken of any random guest who wanted to play a few tunes. The machine eventually drifted from the living room to a table in a spare bedroom, thence to the garage, and after that point there hasn't been a confirmed sighting in many years. He was an old-school engineer, a guy who knew how to use a slide rule, and the CD episode confirmed his professional judgment that nothing to come along since 1976 has really been worth the trouble.

Well, so much for random retrospection. Here's to 50 years of classic tunes so we can listen to echoes of our younger days or, sometimes, just stare at the world.

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey "Pepé Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.



My Favorite Mavens

"I will not relent."

—John Brennan, former CIA director

Maven is a borrowed word from the Yiddish word "meyvn." It means expert, or connoisseur. A maven is a trusted expert in a particular field, who passes timely and relevant knowledge on to others in that field.

Do you remember the old B&W TV show *My Favorite Martian* or The Sound of Music classic song *My Favorite Things* recent NRA/Russian collusion gave us Butina's maven Torshin deep RESPECT for maven Aretha Franklin in everything she sings.

My all-time favorite maven was Anne Leahy, my beloved mother who shared her wisdom and love with her five casarean offspring she taught domestic diplomacy dealing with father and brothers baking cookies, bread, pies, cleaning and kitchen skills, everything.

My "Maven of the Month" whose nomination seems self-evident is a retired admiral who oversaw the Osama Bin Laden raid on Trump's removal of John Brennan's security clearance he said "Revoke my security clearance, too, Mr. President."

For the month of August 2018 then my favorite maven is US Navy retired Admiral William H. Mc Raven.

No and Yes I Must Lie I'm That Kind Of Guy

Yes, I must lie what other kind of guy can fake a viper's hiss nonsensical repetitive tweets full of twit more and more BS to lie boldface now, even admitting obstruction of justice a tongue-tied knot of snake oil in a poisonous viper's pit to delete a Twitter rant I could but really must say I can't screens light up in red and blue states in my divided nation the "disgusting" "fake news" in a frenzy all rush and pant quickly fact checking every single lie in every situation my sycophantic dependent base defends my every move at my most egregious nothing I say or do seems to shock money scandals, nepotism, lies about it are in my groove though I won about Obama and Hillary I'm ready to mock despite danger from perjury, impeachment, imprisonment my prevarication pathway proves to be time well-spent.

Effects of wage depression

The 5-percent increase for civil servants or 14,000-plus employees in poverty income and below created what's known as "wage depression." It simply means the breadcrumbs increase didn't help the strength of the family purse meet basic needs. It only prolonged family hardship NMI-wide.

Before you even receive it, your utility bill went up, including gasoline at the pump stations. So there goes the increase that failed to hike family income.

The elected elite padded their wallets with 80-percent salary hike or some \$31,600, smiling ear to ear. But notice most have avoided discussing their newfound loot? The eggs hatched and maggots began crawling out of the sack into the public domain before they knew it. Like Magoo would say, "Why chillgreen us lai?" You know, treat us like children!

The glossy claim of economic "improvement" is a failed PR on a false economy. Otherwise, it would have lifted all boats in the harbor. Most are stuck downstairs when the high tide came rolling in. Only yachts and big new boats floated, none of which belong to ordinary folks. Isn't this a tale of the lifestyles of the elite versus non-elites? Of course, they'd deny it, as though the suffering villagers are blind, deaf, and mute. The inequity is embedded in villagers' mind and a daily mouthwash, too!

Homes: Now, I've been around family homes completely stuck in poverty. The young warm bodies are jobless in spite of their efforts to find employment. It's a case where foreigners are in jobs supposedly intended for local U.S. citizens. It forces a huge number of unemployed locals.

You listen carefully to their down-to-earth views of negligence by politicians on the hill. All they want is the opportunity to be gainfully employed. Is there anybody in government working diligently to resolve this issue so locals could find meaningful employment? Or is their lowly status a reason to ignore their fate altogether?

The 80-percent increase for the elected elite is a miscalculated decision riddled with boastful arrogance. It would haunt Republicans wherever they roam. No amount of "biba" would shift the fatal narrative now permanently implanted in people's mind. Is there a savior for self-inflicted political destruction other than absorbing the consequence of indecision?

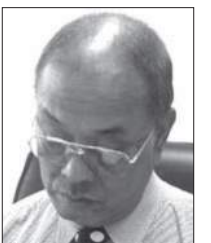
Trilemma: The weather was a bit humid and breezy, bringing steady drizzle on the tin roof above. The break was a good time to ponder an off-the-cuff assertion that "we're doing good but we don't know where we're going!" Really?

The apparent inconsistency is fodder for review. I mean if

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



you're doing great you must be doing something right. How could it be otherwise? But the assertion came from politicians nursing a sense of fear, frustration, if not uncertainty, or the entire trilemma for their miscalculated decisions. The 80-percent centers on their wallets, screw the livelihood of civil servants. How is this supposed to mitigate poverty all over?

There's hope, though, in the effort by the educational estate and other stakeholders to converge and organize a plan that would put purpose and goal into the education of our children and overall growth. With a fully thought-out blueprint, we could make progress and refinements with a sense of awareness what goes down the pike. It begins with a set of fully thought-out plans.

Wake up! It's known as AirBnB, private homes and apartments that are rented out to tourist. It's not part of the hotel group. Yet it enjoys charging fees for rent of their facilities. Does it pay BGRT as hotels do?

You see this is where another financial leak is allowed to escape—paying NMI taxes. Let's zero-in and bring this group into the fold so they pay their fair share of taxes forthwith! Eh, fair is fair!

Absentee voting: Legally, there are three categories where voters are allowed to vote absentee: medical referral patients, students and military types.






If you are not within one of the three, then by all means you are not qualified to vote absentee. If you physically move to Guam, Hawaii, U.S. mainland or elsewhere to work and are actually living off-island, then you've surrendered your absentee rights.

You could claim eventual return. But let's keep it simple by reviewing what the law permits: patients, students, and military.

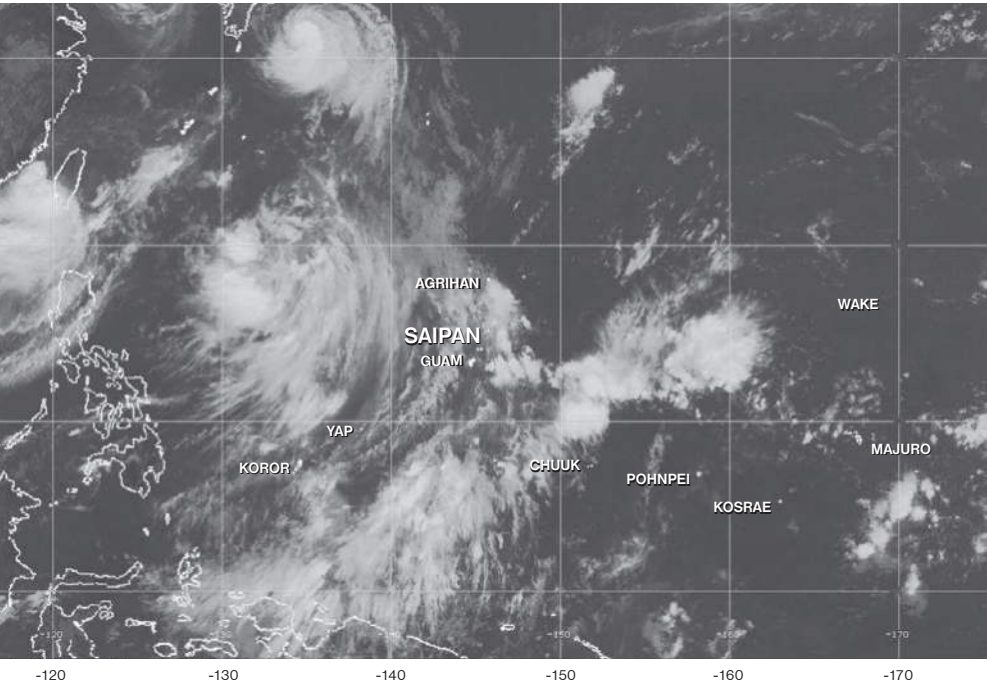
The board of election should handle this and other reported mishandling of ballots in Guam in recent past so to maintain integrity of the system.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:43 AM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Visible satellite shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas, with clouds gradually diminishing. The buoys reveal combined seas of 3 to 5 feet which primarily consist of west swell from the monsoon and northwest swell from typhoons Soulik and Cimaron. These swells will diminish further today, allowing seas to fall to between 2 and 4 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	83° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	84° / 80°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	86° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 76°
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	57° / 48°
Beijing	Sunny	90° / 68°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	84° / 77°
London	Mostly Sunny	64° / 50°
Los Angeles	Sunny	83° / 65°
Manila	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	63° / 37°
Miami	Thunderstorm	88° / 80°
New York	Sunny	82° / 66°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	91° / 81°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	81° / 57°
Busan	Rain	82° / 75°
Rome	Sunny	88° / 70°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	85° / 69°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	61° / 53°
Seoul	Showers	82° / 70°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°
Washington, DC	Sunny	84° / 64°



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:31 AM	LOW TIDE		1.09
05:28 AM	HIGH TIDE		1.73
12:47 PM	LOW TIDE		-0.05
7:36 PM	HIGH TIDE		1.75

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:03 AM	6:35 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:34 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:33 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:33 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:32 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	3:56 AM	5:05 PM
Saturday	-	4:46 AM	5:49 PM
Sunday	-	5:35 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	-	6:24 AM	7:11 PM
Tuesday	-	7:13 AM	7:50 PM

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily	UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1	JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4	JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN	UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7	U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
				UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.			
SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

MCS holds annual Student Activities Fair



MCS

Middle school and high school students fill up the second floor of Mount Carmel School's Maturana Building at the school's annual Student Activities Fair.

Over 300 middle school and high school students participated in Mount Carmel School's Activities Fair last Wednesday, Aug. 22.

Held every year and sponsored by the school's Student Council, students were able to sign up to various extracurricular activities available at the school.

This year's fair featured booths from the school's athletic teams, Theatre Club,

VOX Knights, and many new clubs such as the Chamorro Club, Junior State of America, and the 4-H Club.

The students were very excited about the various clubs available to them. Sophomore Brandee Hunter said, "I signed up to five clubs because I'm really interested in joining them. I've seen the work they did in the past, and I felt very inspired."

It's also a big year for the

school's athletic teams. When asked about the upcoming volleyball season, Karen Sato, a senior, said, "We couldn't get championships last year, so we're going to train and work harder as a team to bring it back this year."

The Theatre Club is set to produce a musical called *Tasi*, which was inspired by Disney's *Moana*. First-time director Kalea Borja explains that pride in the islands and

culture is important, which is why she wants to direct a play all about it. "I wanted to direct something that would bring our cultural roots to life while having a whimsical, theatrical background," she said.

Clubs and organizations are now getting ready for the upcoming Students' Leadership Retreat, in which all activities will be planned for the school year. **(Reica Ramirez)**



Members of Mount Carmel School's Theatre club pose in front of their booth at the school's annual Student Activities Fair. MCS



From left to right, Kloney Anne Virrey, Mikee Mendoza, and Brandee Hunter, members of a new cultural club at Mount Carmel School, the Chamorro Club, pose at their booth at the school's annual Student Activities Fair. MCS



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>



SECOND NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

FRANCISCO L. WILLIAM (collectively "Trustor"), on or about November 27, 1998 gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on September 8, 2004 under Document No. 04-2078 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 026 K 35, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 814 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 026 K 03, DATED DECEMBER 15, 1992, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 92-3822, DATED DECEMBER 16, 1992, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on August 22, 2017. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on August 27, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **Eighty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Eight and 90/100 (\$86,688.90)**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Aubry M. Hocog, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **Wednesday, August 22, 2018, at 4:00 p.m.** All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than **Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.** Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check, or credit card (Visa or Mastercard) to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Credit card payments totaling \$1,000.00 USD, or more, will be charged an additional Three (3)% fee to recover merchant credit card service fees. This fee does not apply to "debit" card payments.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 23rd day of July, 2018.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>



NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	004 B 44	Chamolinian Dr., Tanapag, Saipan	MINIMUM BID :	\$59,450.00
LOT NO.:	002 G 408	Bilimbines Rd., Kagman II, Saipan	MINIMUM BID :	\$52,450.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on August 27, 2018, subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid.** The minimum acceptable bid for purchase/lease on each property shall be (as indicated above).
- Reserve.** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021.
- Deposit: Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC. * Credit card payments totaling \$1,000.00 USD, or more, will be charged an additional Three (3) % fee to recover merchant credit card service fees. This fee does not apply to "debit" card payments.
- Change of Terms.** NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
- Lease option.** NMHC gives notice that it will also consider bids or offers to lease the property, subject to the following terms and conditions:
 - Maximum acceptable Lease term shall be fifty-five (55) years.
 - A lease agreement will be given upon receipt of the up-front payment and shall include:
 - Lessee to insure property and improvements during the Lease term.
 - Lessee responsible for all utilities and other charges associated with the property.
 - Lease not to be assigned or mortgaged without prior written consent of NMHC.

Dated this 23rd day of July, 2018.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Business

Report: Trump administration needs to step up on ‘Obamacare’

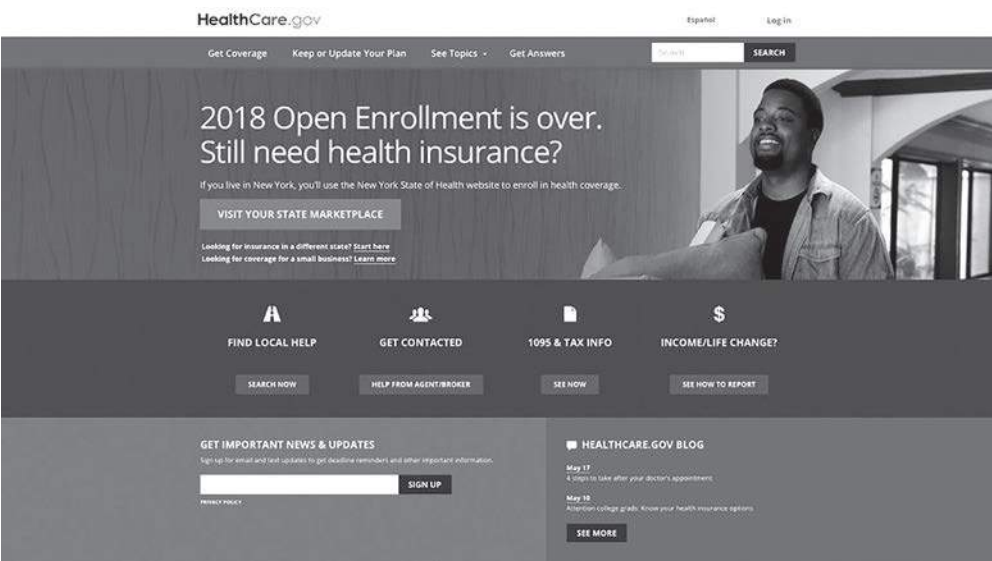
WASHINGTON (AP)—A congressional watchdog said the Trump administration needs to step up its management of sign-up seasons for former President Barack Obama’s health care law after mixed results last year in the throes of a failed GOP effort to repeal it.

The report due out Thursday from the Government Accountability Office is likely to add to Democrats’ election-year narrative that the administration actively undermined “Obamacare” without regard for the consequences to consumers.

The nonpartisan Government Accountability Office was more nuanced. On one hand, it found problems with consumer counseling and advertising and recommended such basic fixes as setting enrollment targets. But it also credited administration actions that did help people enroll, such as a more reliable HealthCare.gov website and reduced call center wait times.

Sign-ups for 2019 begin this November.

A copy of the report from



the investigative agency for Congress was provided to The Associated Press.

It found that:

- The Health and Human Services Department under Trump broke with its own previous practice by failing to set enrollment targets for HealthCare.gov last year. The watchdog recommended that HHS resume setting goals, a standard management tool for government agencies. Without setting numeric goals, HHS

won’t be able to measure whether it is meeting “its current objective of improving Americans’ access to health care,” the report said. The administration responded that it does not believe such targets are relevant.

- HHS used “problematic” and “unreliable” data to justify a 40 percent cut in funding for enrollment counseling programs known as Navigators. HHS responded that it’s making changes to how those

counseling programs are evaluated. But it has cut funding again, by about 70 percent.

- When HHS slashed money for open-enrollment advertising by 90 percent overall, officials said they were doing away with wasteful spending. But an internal study by the department had actually found paid television ads were one of the most effective ways to enroll consumers. The budget for TV ads went from \$26.6 mil-

This May 21, 2018 image shows the main page of the health-care.gov website in Washington. On Wednesday, June 13, 2018, two independent experts said that the Trump administration appears to be taking aim at provisions of the Affordable Care Act that protect people in employer plans, not just those consumers who buy a policy directly from an insurer.

lion in the Obama administration’s final year to zero under President Donald Trump.

“This independent and non-partisan GAO report confirms that the Trump administration’s sabotage of our health care system is driving up costs for consumers and leaving more Americans without health insurance,” said a statement from a group of Democratic lawmakers led by Rep. Frank Pallone of New Jersey.

HHS said in a statement that the 2018 enrollment season was the “most cost-effective and successful experience” for consumers, citing a 90 percent customer satisfaction rate with

the HealthCare.gov call center.

Republicans’ drive to “repeal and replace” the health care law stalled in the Senate last year, and the Trump administration instead found itself having to run a program the president repeatedly branded a “disaster.”

The watchdog found that sign-ups in the 39 states served by HHS through the federal HealthCare.gov website dipped by 5 percent last year, while states running their own enrollment effort maintained their sign-up levels. A total of 11.7 million people enrolled for 2018 coverage, with about 85 percent receiving subsidies to help pay their premiums.

The report validated a long-time Republican criticism that high premiums discourage consumers from signing up for coverage. But it also found that Trump contributed to premium increases for 2018 by canceling payments that reimburse insurers for lower deductibles and copays provided to low-income people. That forced the carriers to jack up rates.

Experts: Legal status check systems can be easily exploited

MONTEZUMA, Iowa (AP)—The systems offered by the U.S. government to check the legal status of workers like the Mexican man now suspected of killing an Iowa college student can be easily exploited through identity fraud and gaps in government systems, experts say.

In the case of Cristhian Bahena Rivera, the 24-year-old now charged with murder in the death of Mollie Tibbetts, Rivera’s ex-employer said Wednesday he provided an out-of-state ID card and Social Security number. He worked at Yarrabee Farms for almost four years under a false name, said Dane Lang, part of the family that owns the dairy.

Yarrabee Farms did not use the federal E-Verify program, Lang said Wednesday, correcting information he had given a day earlier. Instead, the company used the Social Security Administration’s verification service. The family is now looking into adopting E-Verify, he said.

Both E-Verify and the

Social Security Administration’s program, immigration experts say, can be beaten with a state ID and a Social Security number belonging to someone else.

There is a thriving black market for forged or stolen identity documents. And while employers are supposed to check those documents, they are barred by federal law from refusing to accept an ID card that meets legal requirements for employment. They are required to reject documents that do not “reasonably appear to be genuine,” but those can be hard to catch.

E-Verify provides employers with photos for passports and other federal documents that they can compare with what an employee has given them, but not state-issued driver’s licenses or IDs. An employer in Iowa presented with an unfamiliar out-of-state driver’s license may not be able to spot a fake.

“There is rampant fraud,” said Bill Riley, a former U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent who is now

a senior managing director at the consulting firm Guidepost Solutions. “Even experts like myself, we can say with fairly reasonable certainty—but not 100 percent—whether a document is fake or not.”

Authorities say Rivera is in the U.S. illegally. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said that it had no record of Rivera having “any lawful immigration status.” Rivera’s attorney, Allan M. Richards, said Wednesday that his client “has the legal documents” to work in the United States.

E-Verify has been offered by both Republicans and Democrats as a solution to curbing illegal immigration. More recently, President Donald Trump has proposed making it mandatory for employers nationwide to check hires in the system.

All federal contractors are currently required to use E-Verify, and 21 states have passed laws requiring some or all employers to use it, according to the Migration Policy Institute. Iowa has not.

Michigan court orders \$12 minimum wage initiative on ballot

LANSING, Mich. (AP)—The Michigan Court of Appeals on Wednesday ordered that an initiative to raise the state’s minimum wage to \$12 be placed on the November ballot, rejecting the restaurant industry’s challenges to petition signatures and how the measure is written.

In a brief 2-1 order, Judges Stephen Borrello and Jane Beckering said the One Fair Wage proposal does not violate constitutional requirements that laws not be revised by reference to their title only. They also dismissed a contention that the ballot committee did not collect enough valid signatures because some signers checked both a “city” and “township” box when listing their hometown.

The ruling came nearly a month after the Board of State Canvassers deadlocked 2-2, on party lines, to certify the proposal despite the Bureau of Elections determining there were 283,000 valid signatures — 31,000 more than needed.

Michigan Opportunity, a restaurant-backed opposition group, said it was disap-

pointed with the decision and would appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court as soon as Thursday.

“While we respect the diligence taken by the Court of Appeals panel, we still firmly believe that the Michigan One Fair Wage petition is misleading and lacks the transparency required by the Michigan constitution, rendering it ineligible for the ballot,” said spokesman Justin Winslow.

Because the measure is initiated legislation, it would first go to the Republican-led Legislature, which could pass or reject the bill. If it were ignored — which appears likely — the proposal would go to a statewide vote in the fall. Lawmakers also could propose an alternative measure to appear alongside it on the ballot, though legislators have just two or three session days scheduled before a Sept. 7 deadline to finalize the ballot.

Michigan’s hourly minimum wage is \$9.25 and, starting in 2019, will increase annually with inflation unless the unemployment rate is high. Under the proposal,

the wage would rise to \$10 in 2019, \$10.65 in 2020, \$11.35 in 2021 and \$12 in 2022, with yearly inflationary adjustments afterward.

The minimum wage for tipped employees would gradually increase from the current \$3.52 until reaching the minimum wage for all other workers in 2024.

“This is a victory both for voting rights and for workers in need of one fair wage to take care of their families,” said the ballot drive’s campaign manager, Darci McConnell.

Judge Michael Riordan dissented from the ruling, arguing that people who checked both township and city boxes should not be given the benefit of the doubt afforded by a safe-harbor provision in state law. The elections bureau has said its “longstanding policy” is to count signatures where both boxes are marked.

“The safe-harbor provision does not protect such errors, and extending it to do so is tantamount to adding language to the statute that the Legislature saw fit to leave out,” Riordan wrote.

STOCK

PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

25,733.60

-88.69

-0.34%

S&P

2,861.82

-1.14

-0.04%

NASDAQ

7,889.10

+29.92

+0.38%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.85	Russian Ruble	68.2
Australian Dollar	1.37	Singapore Dollar	1.37
British Pound	0.7763	South Korean Won	1122.01
Canadian Dollar	1.30	Swiss Franc	0.98
Chinese Yuan	6.87	Taiwan Dollar	30.28
Euro	0.86	Thailand Baht	32.74

Nation

Mexican man charged in Iowa slaying worked under fake name

BROOKLYN, Iowa (AP)—A Mexican man charged with killing an Iowa college student worked on a dairy farm for years under a false name just a few miles from where the young woman was allegedly abducted while running last month, his employer said Wednesday.

Cristhian Bahena Rivera was a good employee who showed up on time to take care of the cows and got along well with his co-workers, said Dane Lang, manager of Yarrabee Farms in Brooklyn, Iowa.

The 24-year-old kept coming to work after Mollie Tibbetts disappeared July 18, and “nobody saw a difference” in his demeanor, Lang said. His colleagues were stunned Tuesday to learn that he was not only the suspect in Tibbetts’ death, but that he had a different real name than what he went by on the farm, he said.

“Our employee is not who he said he was,” Lang said at a news conference at the farm. “This was shocking to us.”

When Rivera was hired in 2014, he presented an out-of-state government-issued photo identification and a matching Social Security card, he said. That information was run through the Social Security Administration’s employment-verification system and



checked out, he said.

Rivera’s defense attorney, Allan Richards, acknowledged Wednesday that his client received his paycheck under a different name and that he was uncertain of his immigration status. He said he was

prepared to argue that his client was in the country legally, noting that he came to the U.S. as a minor and had worked and paid taxes for years.

“He showed up every day, and he did his job. He was patting on his back. They turned a

blind eye to the reality of documentation,” Richards said.

Rivera made his initial court appearance Wednesday on a charge of first-degree murder in the death of Tibbetts, a 20-year-old University of Iowa student.

Investigators say they believe Rivera was in the country illegally when he abducted Tibbetts as she went on an evening

jog, killed her and dumped her body in a cornfield. A judge on Wednesday agreed to increase his bond to \$5 million from \$1 million after prosecutor Scott Brown noted he was a potential flight risk who was charged with a “heinous crime.”

Rivera sat stone-faced through much of the hearing, wearing a striped jail jumpsuit, handcuffs and speaking

AP
Cristhian Bahena Rivera is escorted into the Poweshiek County Courthouse for his initial court appearance, Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2018, in Montezuma, Iowa.

only briefly through a Spanish-speaking interpreter.

His attorney, Richards, lashed out at President Donald Trump for publicly declaring his client guilty at a rally Tuesday night in which he called the nation’s immigration system a disgrace. He said his client was a hard worker with the equivalent of an eighth-grade education, had no prior criminal record and deserved the presumption of innocence and a fair trial.

“Sad and Sorry Trump has weighed in on this matter in national media which will poison the entire possible pool of jury members,” Richards wrote in a court filing.

Trump noted the arrest at the rally in West Virginia: “You heard about today with the illegal alien coming in, very sadly, from Mexico and you saw what happened to that incredible, beautiful young woman. Should’ve never happened. Illegally in our country.”

Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials have lodged an immigration detainer for Rivera, a move that means the agency has probable cause to believe he is subject to deportation.

Republicans—and some Democrats—reject impeachment talk

WASHINGTON (AP)—The day after President Donald Trump was implicated in a federal crime, members of both parties dismissed talk of impeachment, with some Democrats expressing fears Wednesday about such a politically risky step, and Republicans shrugging off the accusations or withholding judgment.

The legal entanglements surrounding Trump—the guilty plea by former lawyer Michael Cohen and the fraud conviction of one-time campaign chairman Paul Manafort—delivered a one-two punch that left lawmakers struggling for an appropriate response ahead of the midterm campaigns.

Trump’s strongest supporters echoed his “no collusion” retorts, suggesting that, absent any evidence that he worked with Russia to influence the 2016 election, there is just no high-crimes-and-misdemeanors case for impeachment.

Democrats, meanwhile, are trying to tamp down expectations from their liberal base of taking on the president for fear that impeachment talk

will cause GOP voters to rally around Trump in November.

The dynamic underscored the political difficulty of impeachment proceedings on Capitol Hill, especially for Republicans who have been reluctant to criticize the president but now face a new chapter in what has been a difficult relationship.

In pleading guilty to campaign-finance violations and other crimes Tuesday, Cohen said Trump directed a hush-money scheme before the 2016 election to buy the silence of porn star Stormy Daniels and Playboy model Karen McDougal, both of whom said they had sexual relationships with Trump. Trump has accused Cohen of making up “stories in order to get a ‘deal’” from federal prosecutors.

Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell brushed past reporters Wednesday without answering questions about Cohen or the possibility that the lawyer’s accusations about an illegal campaign cover-up are grounds for impeachment proceedings. GOP House Speaker Paul Ryan, who is away from Wash-

ington, had no direct response. An aide said he needs more information.

Other Republicans, though, filled the gaps.

“No collusion=no impeachment,” tweeted the influential radio host Hugh Hewitt, setting the day’s tone.

He explained that impeachment is a political and legal term of art and said there needs to be a tipping point in public opinion that would push Congress to act. It’s not there yet, he tweeted.

Doug Deason, a Texas-based donor and major Trump supporter, said voters simply don’t care that Trump behaves badly at times and has associated with people who broke the law.

“In no way, shape or form did we think we were hiring St. Trump to repair the morals of the country,” he said.

Jerry Falwell Jr., the president of Liberty University and a Trump confidant, said: “Anything short of the campaign actually conspiring with Russia to try to impact the election, anything short of that will just be background noise.”

With no place to run, people in Hawaii brace for hurricane

HONOLULU (AP)—Hawaii residents emptied store shelves Wednesday, claimed the last sheets of plywood to board up windows and drained gas pumps as Hurricane Lane churned toward the state.

The category 4 storm could slam into the islands Thursday with winds exceeding 100 mph (161 kph), making it the most powerful storm to hit Hawaii since Hurricane Iniki in 1992.

Unlike Florida or Texas, where residents can get in their cars and drive hundreds of miles to safety, people in Hawaii are confined to the islands and can’t outrun the powerful winds and driving rain.

Instead, they must stay put and make sure they have enough supplies to outlast prolonged power outages and other potential emergencies.

“Everyone is starting to buckle down at this point,” said Christyl Nagao of Kauai. “Our families are here. We have businesses and this and that. You just have to man your fort and hold on tight.”

Living in an isolated island state also means the possibility

that essential goods can’t be shipped to Hawaii if the storm shuts down ports.

“You’re stuck here and resources might not get here in time,” Nagao said.

The National Weather Service said Lane is expected to make a gradual turn toward the northwest Wednesday, followed by a more northward motion into the islands on Thursday.

“The center of Lane will move very close to or over the main Hawaiian Islands from Thursday through Saturday,” the weather service said.

The Big Island was already starting to see Lane’s first effects Wednesday, Gov. David Ige said at a news conference.

The hurricane’s outer rain bands were bringing showers to some parts of the island, said Matt Foster, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

The eastern side of the island picked up nearly 3 inches (7.62 centimeters) of rain in three hours, while there was light rain in other areas, Foster said.

“Heavy rain in Hilo right now,” Hawaii County Managing

Director Wil Okabe said of the east side town. But on the west side, “nothing. It’s a nice day.”

Public schools were closed for the rest of the week and local government workers were told to stay home unless they’re essential employees.

Shelters were being readied to open on Oahu, Maui, Molokai and Lanai. Officials said they would open shelters on other islands when needed. Officials were also working to help Hawaii’s sizeable homeless population, many of whom live near beaches and streams that could flood.

Maui County officials warned that those needing to use Molokai’s shelter should get there soon because of concerns that high surf could make the main highway on the south coast of the island impassable.

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency Administrator Tom Travis said there’s not enough shelter space statewide. He advised those who are not in flood zones to stay home.

Many residents were trying to reinforce older homes made with single-wall construction.

Asia

Tears, farewell hugs end 1st round of Korean reunions

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—As her two North Korean daughters, both in their 70s, wailed outside her bus, 99-year-old Han Shin-ja pounded the windows from inside in despair, moving her lips to say “don’t cry” and “farewell.”

As her bus left for South Korea on Wednesday, Han’s daughters chased the moving vehicle before being stopped by a North Korean official, a predictable but no less heart-wrenching departure that’s likely to be the last time they see each other after decades of separation.

Han’s family was among hundreds of elderly Koreans who tearfully said their final goodbyes at the end of the first round of rare reunions between relatives separated by the 1950-53 Korean War.

About 200 South Koreans returned home after the end of three days of meetings with North Korean relatives at the North’s Diamond Mountain resort. Another 337 South Koreans will participate in a second round of reunions from Friday to Sunday.

The first set of meetings created highly emotional images of relatives weeping, embrac-

ing and caressing each other in a rush of emotions. Many of the South Korean participants were war refugees who reunited with siblings or infant children they left behind, many of whom are now into their 70s.

At their final lunch meeting on Wednesday, 91-year-old Lee Ki-soon initially seemed lost for words as he shared a glass of “soju,” a vodka-like alcohol loved in both Koreas, with his 75-year-old North Korean son.

Lee later told his son, Ri Kang Son, “I am not your fake father. You have a father.” Ri replied: “Be healthy and live long. Then we can meet again,” according to pool reports.

An Jong Sun, a 70-year-old North Korean, carefully fed her 100-year-old South Korean father food. In the same large meeting hall, Kim Byung-oh, 88, quietly wept as his 81-year-old North Korean sister tried to calm him.

Nearby, Ri Chol, a 61-year-old North Korean, was also in tears as he grasped the hands of a 93-year-old South Korean grandmother he was only just getting to know.

“Don’t cry, Chol,” an equally emotional Kwon Seok told her grandson.



South Koreans on a bus touch the bus window in their attempt to feel hands of their North Korean relatives as they bid farewell after the Separated Family Reunion Meeting at the Diamond Mountain resort in North Korea, Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2018. AP

Han told her two North Korean daughters to eat a lot of “chap-ssal,” or sticky rice, for health. She told them she would always pray for their happiness and also for the future of her North Korean great-grandchildren she never got to see.

Some relatives exchanged their phone numbers and home addresses, although the Koreans since the end of the war have banned ordinary citizens from visiting relatives on the other side of the border

or contacting them without permission.

Shin Jae-cheon, a 92-year-old from the South Korean town of Gimpo, not far from the border, lamented that his 70-year-old North Korean sister lived less than an hour’s drive away all these years.

“It will take 40 minutes for me to drive there,” Shin told his sister, Sin Kum Sun, who lives in the North Korean border town of Kaesong. “The bus that goes to my home is No. 8. No. 8. The No. 8 bus,” Shin

added, expressing a wish for his sister to come visit one day.

After organizers aired an announcement that the reunions were officially over, Han and her daughters broke down. They wept, embraced each other and temporarily refused to leave their lunch table. Two North Korean officials politely separated Han from one of her daughters, 71-year-old Kim Kyong Yong, who kept holding on to one of Han’s arms.

After the South Koreans boarded the bus, workers

brought steppers so that Han’s daughters could put their hands on the bus window, with Han doing the same on the inside of the glass.

After wiping off tears with a handkerchief, Kim looked up toward his sister, smiled and created a heart with his arms. His sister, Kim Sun Ok, made the same gesture outside the bus.

“Goodbye, oppa (older brother)! Goodbye, oppa!” Kim Sun Ok cried as the bus rolled out of the resort.

N. Korea speeds construction spree ahead of anniversary

SAMJIYON, North Korea (AP)—Thousands of North Korean “soldier-builders” in olive green uniforms and bright red hardhats are doing everything from digging ditches to putting up walls on multi-story apartment blocks and government buildings in this northern city near the Chinese border.

Samjiyon is one of the main focuses of a massive nationwide construction campaign ahead of North Korea’s 70th anniversary in what leader Kim Jong Un has described as a symbolic battle against anyone who would oppose his country.

The Sept. 9 anniversary is shaping up to be the biggest event since Kim assumed power in late 2011. Along with huge rallies in Pyongyang on the day itself and the revival of North Korea’s trademark mass games at the stadium, Kim has deployed soldiers and ordinary citizens alike to erect buildings, improve roads and work on other infrastructure on a scale unseen in recent years.

The construction spree is intended to improve living conditions in keeping with one of

Kim’s first promises to the nation, that he would bolster the economy so they would no longer need to “tighten their belts.” But it is also a demonstration of the power of his regime in the face of U.S.-backed international sanctions intended to squeeze his economy and force him to abandon his nuclear weapons.

Kim made that political message clear during a visit to Samjiyon with his wife last week, when he was quoted by state media as saying “the hostile forces’ persistent sanctions and obstructive moves” have come as a serious setback, but added the North Korean people have risen to the challenge and are “making a history of legendary miracles despite the most difficult conditions.”

Kim said that by “showily” building up Samjiyon, the nation is in effect fighting a symbolic battle against those who would try to stifle its “socialist civilization.”

Samjiyon lies at the foot of Mount Paektu, which is closely linked to the Kim family and is considered the spiritual center of the North Korean revolution.

800K displaced in flooding in southern Indian state

CHENGANNUR, India (AP)—Some 800,000 people have been displaced and over 350 have died in the worst flooding in a century in southern India’s Kerala state, officials said Sunday, as rescuers searched for people stranded in the worst-affected areas.

The downpours that started Aug. 8 have triggered floods and landslides and caused homes and bridges to collapse across Kerala, a picturesque state known for its quiet tropical backwaters and beautiful beaches.

Thousands of rescuers were continuing efforts to reach out to stranded people and get relief supplies to isolated areas by hundreds of boats and nearly two dozen helicopters, said P.H. Kurian, a top disaster management official in Kerala. He said weather conditions had improved considerably and expected the nearly

10,000 people still stranded to be rescued by Monday.

An estimated 800,000 people have taken shelter in some 4,000 relief camps across Kerala, Kurian said.

Weather officials have predicted more rains across the state through Monday morning.

In several villages in the suburbs of Chengannur, one of the worst-affected areas, carcasses of dead cattle were seen floating in muddy waters as water began receding. However, vast rice fields continued to be marooned and many vehicles were submerged.

In some villages, floodwaters up to 3 meters (10 feet) high had entered homes.

Rescuers in a motorboat reached a hamlet where they tried in vain to persuade an 80-year-old woman, Bhavani Yamma, to be taken to a government-run shelter from her partially submerged single-

story house.

“I will not come. This is my home and I will die here,” said Yamma, who lives alone.

The team later rescued a 61-year-old kidney ailment patient, Raveendran, who needs dialysis twice a week.

One of the rescuers, Rajagopal, a police constable who uses only one name, said initially “we didn’t anticipate it would be such a big disaster.” But he said that by Wednesday, “we realized it’s really big.”

Officials have called it the worst flooding in Kerala in a century, with rainfall in some areas well over double that of a typical monsoon season.

At least two trains carrying about 1.5 million liters (400,000 gallons) of water moved to the flooded areas from the neighboring states of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra on Sunday, Indian

railway official Milind Deouskar said, according to the Press Trust of India news agency.

After one of the trains arrived, Kurian, the disaster management official, said authorities had largely restored the state’s water supply systems. “What we need right now is bottled water, which is easy to transport to remote and isolated places, where some people are still stranded,” Kurian said.

Officials estimate that more than 10,000 kilometers (6,200 miles) of roads have been damaged. One of the state’s major airports, in the city of Kochi, was closed this past Tuesday due to the flooding. It is scheduled to remain closed until Aug. 26.

The Indian government said a naval air base in Kochi would be opened for commercial flights starting Monday morning.

World

Giraffe, rhino deaths raise alarm at former Buenos Aires zoo

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Shaki was 18 when she died - too young given the life expectancy of a giraffe. Ruth the rhinoceros was recovering from an infection until she fell, was stuck for hours in thick mud and then died.

The recent deaths have fueled charges by conservationists that an attempt by the Buenos Aires government to turn a 140-year-old zoo into a less intensive “eco-park” and relocate most of its 1,500 animals to sanctuaries has been a poorly planned disaster.

A coalition of more than a dozen environmental and veterinary groups has issued a letter denouncing a “state of abandonment” at the site, where about 200 animals have died since 2016. And more recently, a former zoo director filed a complaint demanding an investigation into the deaths of Shaki and Ruth, arguing that a lack of resources and the stress from nearby construction work contributed to their demise.

“A year ago, I said that this institution was not Noah’s Ark, but the Titanic on its course to be shipwrecked,” said Claudio Bertonatti, ex-director of the Buenos Aires zoo and consultant for the Fundación Azara non-governmental organization. “Today, we’ve crashed into an iceberg.”

The zoo was inaugurated in 1875 on what was then a quiet patch on the outskirts of Buenos Aires. It was later a favorite haunt of Argentine novelist Jorge Luis Borges, who was fascinated by the tigers and wrote about them in his books. But as the megalopolis grew,



In July 2, 2016 photo, Ciro interacts with his mother Shaki at their enclosure at the “eco-park” in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Shaki died recently due to a stomach ulcer. AP

the zoo became surrounded by an urban sprawl of busy avenues with honking buses and screeching cars near the animal enclosures, where on a recent day a solitary lion spent his time chasing his tail in circles.

The antiquated enclosures were widely considered inhumane by modern standards, as were the noisy environment and pollution, and pressure from animal rights groups grew to close the zoo.

“The situation of captivity is degrading for the animals, and it’s not the way to take care of them,” said Buenos Aires Mayor Horacio Rodríguez Larreta when he announced the zoo’s closure in 2016.

But the task remained to find new homes for the ani-

mals, hundreds of which still remain behind bars at the site in noisy limbo two years later.

Developers of Eco Park, as the site is now called, say there have been improvements to the enclosures and the 45-acre (18-hectare) site has been closed to the public, reducing the stress on the animals. Some 432 of them have been transferred so far, including two grizzly bears sent to The Wild Animal Sanctuary in Colorado, three alligators to Noah’s Ark Animal Sanctuary in Georgia and a Fiji crested iguana to the San Diego Zoo.

City officials acknowledge that the process of closing the zoo has proved more difficult than they originally thought. Legislation had to be enacted

to set standards and authorize the transfers. Experts feared that many animals were so zoo-trained that they would die if moved, even to wild animal preserves. Other animals were not transferred because of difficult logistics—they were too large or too tall to travel.

That was the case of the giraffes: Shaki, her partner Buddy and their calf, Ciro. Nothing, however, indicated that Shaki was at risk of death. Giraffes in the wild live to about 25 years.

“The truth is that she was an adult female, but she had many years ahead of her,” said Guillermo Wiemayer, a veterinarian who has worked at the former zoo for more than a decade.

Shaki began showing signs of what appeared to be abdominal pain at around 9 a.m. on July 24. Six hours later, the giraffe was dead. The necropsy found an ulcer in the wall of the animal’s stomach that ultimately led to peritonitis.

It occurred just 10 days after Ruth died following an infection in her vulva that later spread. Wiemayer said the rhinoceros had been breathing heavily and had diarrhea. She also suffered what he said were some “scratches” after she was attacked by a male rhinoceros. But overall, Ruth’s condition had improved.

Then, the enclosure flooded, she slipped and got stuck in the mud. For more than six hours, her keepers made a desperate

attempt to rescue her using four-wheel-drive vehicles and other machinery. By the time they got Ruth out, she was too weak.

Wiemayer denied that the deaths of the animals were related to changes in their food or stress from construction near their enclosures, saying that the work had ended months before.

“While they’re under our care, we try to give them the best quality of life possible,” he said near Ciro, while the young orphaned giraffe extended its long dark-grey tongue during feeding time.

“But we know that unfortunately, we live with life and death.”

The complaint filed by Bertonatti to a special unit of prosecutors that deals with environmental matters includes video showing rats and cockroaches in the enclosures of some of the park’s animals.

The park’s developers acknowledged that the footage was shot inside the park, but said it was years before city officials took it over in 2016. Rodents, they said, are inevitable since food is often out on the open, but they have hired a company and also gotten advice from a university to help them deal with infestations.

“Until the deaths of the giraffe and the rhino, there had never been criticisms in regards to the well-being of our animals,” said Gonzalo Pascual, deputy secretary of the environment and public spaces, who is in charge of the Eco Park project, which will have interactive learning modules, green spaces and the animals that can’t be transferred.

WORLD BRIEFS

Bolton says no timetable for Trump’s Mideast peace plan

JERUSALEM (AP)—President Donald Trump’s national security adviser said Wednesday there was no timetable for releasing the administration’s much-anticipated Mideast peace plan. John Bolton said a “lot of progress” has been made, but he refused to say what the plan entailed or when it may be publicized. The Trump administration recently began staffing its Mideast policy team ahead of the plan’s expected release. Trump officials have long promised the most comprehensive package ever put forward toward resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Palestinians have indicated they consider it a non-starter given Trump’s bias toward Israel and his unilateral recognition of Jerusalem as its capital. At a West Virginia rally on Tuesday, Trump said Israel will pay a “price” for that move and the Palestinians will “get something very good” in return. Bolton would not address the Trump comments or say what the Palestinians could expect.

Aftershock hits Venezuela following biggest quake since 1900

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—A strong aftershock jolted Venezuela’s northeastern coast on Wednesday following the most powerful earthquake to hit the area in more than a century, though officials said neither caused major damage or deaths, apparently due to their depth. The magnitude 7.3 quake Tuesday was the largest to strike Venezuela since 1900, ac-

cording to the U.S. Geological Survey. But at a depth of some 76 miles (123 kilometers) beneath the Earth’s surface, it appeared to have caused only limited damage even near its epicenter a few miles off the Cariaco peninsula that stretches into the eastern Caribbean. The magnitude 5.8 aftershock at 9:27 a.m. (1327 GMT) on Wednesday also was centered relatively deep, 61 miles (98 kilometers) below the surface. It was felt lightly in the capital. “Shaking does die off at a distance,” said seismologist Lucy Jones, a research associate with the California Institute of Technology, adding that the earthquake’s considerable depth likely prevented a tragedy.

Dutch police identify suspect in slaying of boy 20 years ago

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Dutch police have appealed to the public for help tracking down a suspect in the slaying 20 years ago of an 11-year-old boy while he was attending a summer camp. Police on Wednesday identified the suspect as 55-year-old Jos Brech, saying that his DNA matches samples taken from the clothes of the slain boy, Nicky Verstappen. Brech, an expert in survival techniques, was reported missing in April by family members after he failed to return home from an overseas trip. French police have already hunted unsuccessfully for him in the Vosges region of eastern France. A day after Verstappen went missing, Brech was stopped by military police close to the scene. Last year, he didn’t respond to a request to provide DNA to the high-profile investigation.

Opening door to migrants, some Italians defy govt line

ROME (AP)—Italy has made headlines as a hard place for migrants recently, with racist attacks against blacks on its soil and a new government closing Italian ports to people rescued in the Mediterranean Sea.

But not all Italians are on board, and some are even reaching out to migrants.

Barbara di Clemente, a 79-year-old grandmother, opened her heart and home to Moriba Mamadou Diarra from Mali, hosting him at her two-bedroom apartment in Rome for the past four months. The 18-year-old says he fled his country because there, his “rights had been denied” and he couldn’t study and build a better future for himself.

She says that taking in Diarra, who dreams of playing professional soccer, has been

her own way of helping someone in need while making a political statement against Italy’s populist, anti-migrant government. Di Clemente is among a growing number of Italians who have applied to host young migrants, stepping in to fill a gap in government services even as the number of new arrivals to Italy plummets.

“Something in my soul spoke to me,” Di Clemente said of her decision to host Diarra, adding that having lived through World War II, she is particularly sensitive to wars and poverty.

She contacted Refugees Welcome, a humanitarian group founded in Germany in 2015 that helps organize migrant hosting and now has chapters in 16 countries.

Focus

The little boy emerges into view amid a chorus of panicked shouts and the thunder of feet from the horde sweeping past us. He is slumped over the shoulder of a man, his skinny arms flopping around like a marionette's. And though we cannot see his face, we know from his limp body that he is in danger.

My translator, Habi, and I are walking along a dirt road through Bangladesh's refugee camps, where 700,000 Rohingya people have fled since the military launched a violent campaign in neighboring Myanmar last August. Listening to the shouts from the crowd, Habi works out what has happened: The boy fell into one of the fetid waterways that snake through the camps. He is in urgent need of help.

It is Friday, a weekly holiday in Bangladesh. The medical tents in this part of the camp are unstaffed. The closest help is at an emergency clinic, several kilometers away.

Ahead of us, the crowd has descended upon a few slow-moving rickshaws, the only transport available to them. "They will never make it in time," Habi says, shaking his head.

We reach our van. "What if we took him?" I ask.

Habi looks at me in surprise. "Can we?"

His question is understandable. As journalists in a crisis zone, we are expected to be observers, not participants.

in the road, the boy is jolted backward, squashing his face up against his cousin's stomach.

The cousin tells us what little he knows: The boy's father was at the mosque and his mother immersed in afternoon prayers. At some point, the boy left his family's shelter and wound up in the water. When he was finally fished out, his belly was bloated and water gushed from his mouth.

No one knows how long he had been floating there.

The road is a nightmare. It is pockmarked with craters and waterlogged in places from the rains. It is jammed with cows and goats, trucks and rickshaws. Our driver leans on the horn and dodges left and right, pushing the van with its broken door to the limit.

We come to a halt before a narrow bridge. A truck is sitting on it, playing a game of chicken with another truck that wants to cross in the opposite direction. Neither will budge. Habi hurries over to reason with the drivers.

The boy's lips are turning blue. I press my forehead against the seat in front of me and briefly close my eyes. "We're not going to make it," I murmur.

■ ■ ■ ■

Though no one knows how the boy ended up in the water, it was not surprising that he had.

More than half of the Rohingya refugees living in these camps are children. Many clam-

Here in the camps, the children face other dangers: Malnutrition and disease. Human traffickers. Flooding and landslides. And violence.

One evening, we heard about a community leader stabbed to death along the main road running through the camps. Another day, a woman's screams sent us running toward her bamboo shelter, which was shaking from the beating she was suffering from her husband. By the time we reached their hut, the woman had escaped, sobbing as she ran by. Her husband fled in the other direction.

The death toll in these camps is unknown, because many die far away from clinics. But the cemeteries that now dot the hills make clear that Bangladesh is hardly a safe haven for Rohingya children.

Relief groups have tried to help youngsters. Save the Children runs safe spaces where they are free to play. UNICEF runs treatment centers for the malnourished.

Yet there is only so much that can be done to protect a child in this environment, particularly with limited resources. A global appeal by the U.N. and other agencies for around \$1 billion in humanitarian aid has raised just a third of that.

During my reporting trip to the camps last year, many Rohingya expressed hope that the world would hear their pleas and help them safely return home. Now, nearly a year into the crisis, much of that hope has given way to fears

army of rats scurrying around her shelter.

Sitting and waiting in the van, I silently will this not to become another tragedy for the Rohingya.

■ ■ ■ ■

Finally, mercifully, the trucks begin to move. We cross the bridge.

By the time we reach the clinic, 20 minutes have passed. The guards at the gate take one look at the boy and let us through. We race toward the medical tent.

"This boy needs help!" I shout. "He fell in the water!"

Everyone freezes and stares.

"He fell in the water?" one doctor repeats. "YES!" I scream.

A doctor grabs the boy and dashes into an adjacent tent. Then he begins to frantically pump the boy's chest.

Why hadn't I thought to pump his chest?

Another doctor rushes in with a ventilator. The first doctor keeps pumping his chest.

The curtain to the tent is drawn shut. I pace outside, running the events of the drive over and over in my head. In my tunnel vision to get to the clinic, it hadn't occurred to me to try CPR.

About 10 minutes later, a doctor emerges.

"Is he OK?" I venture, knowing the answer, hoping I'm wrong.

Her response is blunt. "No."

Race to save drowning Rohingya boy exposes spiraling crisis

By KRISTEN GELINEAU
ASSOCIATED PRESS



In this Thursday, June 28, 2018, photo, Rohingya children play next to a river in Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh. Rohingya children living in these refugee camps face fresh dangers of malnutrition and disease. For the hundreds of thousands of Rohingya children living in Bangladesh's refugee camps, dangers lurk everywhere: from malnutrition and disease to human traffickers to flooding and landslides.

AP

But a dying child renders such distinctions meaningless. My response is immediate: Yes.

Habi quickly ushers a shirtless teenager carrying the boy into the front seat of our van. The teen is the boy's cousin.

Our driver revs the engine, but the van is swarmed by the frantic crowd. "MOVE!" I shout at them. "MOVE, MOVE, MOVE!" Habi repeats the plea in the Rohingya dialect and we bang against the windows. The crowd parts and the van lurches forward.

The boy is draped across his cousin's lap. His tiny frame suggests he is just a toddler. Only the whites of his eyes are visible, but they are flickering. He is still alive.

I tell his cousin to turn him on his side to let water drain from his mouth and keep his airway open. But with every bone-jarring bump

ber over crumbling hillsides to reach aid distribution points, and trek into the mountains in search of firewood. They cross rushing creeks barefoot while balancing piles of tree roots bigger than their bodies atop their heads. And they play in excrement-riddled waterways, which have swelled with the monsoon rains.

That these children have managed to survive what the United Nations calls textbook ethnic cleansing in Myanmar and nearly a year in the chaos of the camps feels like a miracle. Some parents say they watched helplessly as members of Myanmar's security forces bashed their babies against trees, threw them into fires, stomped on them with their boots. The children who survived walked for days across mountains and squeezed into rickety boats to cross a river into Bangladesh.

that the world has forgotten them.

One day, I ran into a woman I met last year as part of an investigation into the military's mass rapes of the Rohingya. She had been pregnant when soldiers gang-raped her and killed her 3-year-old daughter.

The woman cradled her baby as she asked what had happened after the story was published. I told her that many people had been moved by the rape survivors' accounts.

She stared at me. But no one has helped us, she said. We are still waiting for justice.

The cost of languishing in limbo was clear. We saw it in the two emaciated girls scrounging through the muck for discarded bananas, shoving the rotten fruit into their mouths with bony hands. We heard it in the weeping of the woman who was too distraught to notice the

I would later learn that the boy was dead by the time we made it to the clinic. I would also learn that he was not a toddler, but a malnourished 6-year-old. Around 40 percent of Rohingya children in the camps are stunted, according to UNICEF. After almost a year of subsisting on little more than donated rice and lentils, thousands are shadows of who they should be.

I walk back to the van. Habi and our driver look at me expectantly. I shake my head. Their faces fall.

We had failed him. Looking out at the suffering that stretched in every direction, it felt like the world had failed all the Rohingya.

Habi is quiet for a minute. When he speaks, his words are the final knife twist:

"He was an only child."

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Police: Man angry about loud music waves gun at school dance

THATCHER, Ariz. (AP)—A 72-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of waving a gun at a high school dance in Arizona because he didn't like the loud music. Police in the small southeastern Arizona town of Thatcher say Robert Layton drove to the high school parking lot around 11:45 p.m. Friday and complained about the loud music. Witnesses say Layton pulled a 9mm handgun out of his pocket and waved it around before pulling wires to disable the music. A DJ at the event wrestled Layton to the ground and disarmed him. Authorities later said there were no bullets in the handgun.

Troopers cite 10 sports car drivers for going too slow

HAMDEN, Conn. (AP)—State police in Connecticut usually pull over cars for driving too fast. But on Sunday, troopers stopped and ticketed 10 cars for going too slow. Police received several calls from angry motorists Sunday about what were described as high-performance, racing-type cars slowing traffic to a crawl on the Wilbur Cross Parkway in New Haven and Hamden. Police say the lead car was filming the other cars, which were blocking both lanes of the highway so no other vehicles could pass. All 10 vehicles were pulled over and the drivers were issued infractions.

Tweet over deli packaging gets gov's attention, and a change

CONCORD, N.H. (AP)—A supermarket customer's tweet on stickers placed over the opening of bagged deli meats got the attention of New Hampshire's governor, and a change. NH1 reports Londonderry Town Manager Kevin Smith recently took to Twitter to ask that the company, Market Basket, not put the price tag stickers over the zipper of the meat bag. He said it's impossible to open it without destroying the bag. Gov. Chris Sununu responded, saying he has to re-bag cheese every time because of the problem. Market Basket answered that it would speak to its deli departments about it. On Tuesday, both Smith and Sununu tweeted that the stickers were moved to the bag itself. Sununu said he was celebrating with grilled cheese for dinner.

Restaurant cites worldwide freakout over its french fries

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP)—A Maine restaurant

says news about the anger surrounding a change in its french fries has reached people all over the world. Bolley's Famous Franks co-owner Leslie Parsons tells the Kennebec Journal a newspaper in China wanted to try its fries and it received a call from people representing TV chef Rachael Ray. The Journal had reported the Waterville restaurant faced threats of violence when it changed from crinkle-cut to straight-cut fries in June. Parsons says the change was a financial decision because crinkle-cut fries required special blades that needed to be bought monthly. She says many people felt as new owners they were changing tradition at Bolley's, which had served crinkle-cut fries since it opened in 1962. Parsons says despite the criticism "99.9 percent" of its customers are "awesome."

Novelty hand grenades found in checked luggage at airport

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Authorities say two suspected hand grenades found in a woman's checked bag at Newark Liberty International Airport were actually novelty bottle openers. Transportation Security Administration officials say the realistic looking replicas were found Tuesday. The woman eventually was allowed to board her flight, but her luggage didn't make it on the plane due to the delay at the screening area. The woman's name and the airline she was flying were not disclosed. Officials say the bottoms of the fake hand grenades are hollowed out so they can be used as bottle openers. They note that the items come with a warning notice that tells travelers not to bring them into airports because they can look real to screeners using X-ray machines to scan luggage.

Massachusetts zoo on the lookout for stork that flew away

STONEHAM, Mass. (AP)—Maybe she just had a few babies to deliver. A Boston-area zoo is looking for a female stork that flew away last week and has evaded experts since. The Stone Zoo in Stoneham posted on Facebook that the 3-foot-tall, white-bellied stork took off Friday during training for the "Masters of Flight: Birds of Prey" show. The bird, named Las, was last seen Saturday at nearby Spot Pond. Las has a white belly, dark iridescent purple wings, neck and back, a featherless face and a wingspan of about 3 feet. The bird is not dangerous. The zoo says anyone who sees the stork should contact the zoo and not approach, because she might fly

away.

Low-number Delaware license plate auctioned for \$410K

REHOBOTH, Del. (AP)—Low-numbered Delaware license plates are in demand. Someone paid \$410,000 for the plate bearing the number 20 when it went up for auction Sunday at the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center. John Wakefield, of Delaware Tag Traders, tells the Delaware News Journal the price exceeded expectations. He says it surpassed \$325,000 spent on a number 14 license plate three years ago. Wakefield says a number like 20 "generates quite a stir and a buzz."

Germany: No preparations made in case of alien landing

BERLIN (AP)—The German government says it has made no preparations for the possibility that aliens might land in the European country. In a response to questions from opposition Green Party lawmaker Dieter Janecek, the government said "there are no protocols or plans for a possible first contact with alien life." Justifying that stance, the government added it believes "a first contact on German territory is extremely unlikely, based on today's scientific knowledge." Janecek linked the government's responses to a media article Saturday. Separately, German news agency dpa reported Saturday the classic children's book "The Little Prince" has been translated into Klingon—the fictitious language of the eponymous space race in the science fiction franchise "Star Trek."

Fish heads dumped near Alaska school attracts bear, police

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Anchorage police are looking for a man who dumped fish heads in woods near an elementary school. The perpetrator won't have to clean up. A grizzly bear took care of that. The fish dumper, however, faces a \$300 fine for discarding garbage that attracts animals. Alaska families regularly catch dozens of salmon and are urged to properly dispose of fish parts in fast-moving rivers, ocean waters or regular garbage disposal. The incident occurred July 31 at Ravenwood Elementary School. A summer school host spotted a man and boy on an all-terrain vehicle with coolers. The host found the fish heads behind the school but they were gone a day later. The host said a bear seen earlier likely cleaned up the fish. A school security camera captured the suspect's image.

Science & Technology

Study: Many teens—and parents—feel they are tethered to phones

NEW YORK (AP)—Parents lament their teenagers' noses constantly in their phones, but they might want to take stock of their own screen time habits.

A study out Wednesday from the Pew Research Center found that two-thirds of parents are concerned about the amount of time their teenage children spend in front of screens, while more than a third expressed concern about their own screen time.

Meanwhile, more than half of teens said they often or sometimes find their parents or caregivers to be distracted when the teens are trying to have a conversation with them. The study calls teens' relationship with their phones at times "hyperconnected" and notes that nearly three-fourths check messages or notifications as soon as they wake up. Parents do the same, but at a lower if still substantial rate—57 percent.

Big tech companies face a growing backlash against the addictive nature of their gad-



In this photo provided by Georgianna DeCarmine, Georgia short-stop Tai Peete, left, uses Google Translate on his phone to communicate with Panama outfielder Rolando Rodriguez during an interview at the Little League World Series in South Williamsport, Pa., Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018.

gets and apps, the endless notifications and other features created to keep people tethered to their screens.

Many teens are trying to do something about it: 52 percent said they have cut back on the time they spend on their phones and 57 percent did the same with social media.

Experts say parents have a big role in their kids' screen habits and setting a good example is a big part of it.

"Kids don't always do what we say but they do as we do," said Donald Shiffrin, a professor of pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine, who was not involved in the Pew study. "Parents are the door that kids will walk through on their way to the world."

The study surveyed 743 U.S. teens and 1,058 U.S. parents of teens from March 7 to April 10. The margin of error is 4.5 percentage points.

Tech Q&A: Some Windows 10 warnings are wrong

Q: I sometimes get this warning message on my Windows 10 laptop: "Microsoft account problem. We need to fix your Microsoft account (most likely your password changed). Select here to fix it in Shared Experiences settings." To be safe, I close the message box without taking any action. My wife never sees this message on her Windows 7 PC. What's wrong? And are your earlier columns available online?

A: There's really nothing wrong. The message is being displayed because of a technical glitch in Windows 10. That's why your wife doesn't see it on her Windows 7 PC.

The message supposedly signifies that your PC isn't syncing correctly with your online Microsoft account because of a password change. It refers you to the "Shared Experiences" settings that use your Microsoft account to share data between your PC and other devices, such as a smartphone.

Note that you can get this erroneous warning even if you haven't changed your Microsoft account password, don't have any problems logging in to your account and don't share PC data with

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

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other gadgets.

One way to get rid of the error message is to turn off Shared Experiences, which stops Windows 10 from trying to sync itself with your Microsoft account (see tinyurl.com/yclrvkfd).

If you want to try fixing the problem, follow Microsoft's instructions (see tinyurl.com/y9okmatp and scroll down to "Method 1.")

To find my recent columns, go to startribune.com and search for "Steve Alexander." The columns are in the resulting list, beginning with the most recent. New columns appear there on Tuesdays.

Q: I recently bought an iPhone 8, and now my contacts and calendars won't sync with my Windows 10 PC that uses Microsoft Office 2013. I can't seem to connect my PC to Apple's iCloud service, which handles the sync-

ing. What can I do?

A: You can change some PC and iPhone settings to fix the problem.

First, make sure you've got the latest version of iCloud for Windows (see tinyurl.com/q5pwj6d), then see whether your phone and PC are set to the same date and time.

Next, make sure that your iPhone and PC are both using the same Apple ID to log into iCloud, and that both devices are set to update contacts and calendars (see "Try these steps first" at tinyurl.com/ybadrtuj).

If all the settings are correct, scroll down the same web page to the instructions for using Windows with iCloud. You'll first turn off syncing, then turn it on again. Then follow the directions (for Microsoft Outlook 2010 and newer) to make sure you have the "iCloud Outlook Add-in" installed and active.

Life & Style

Singapore: 'Crazy Rich Asians' author skipped service duty

SINGAPORE (AP)—Singapore's government says the author of the book that inspired the hit film "Crazy Rich Asians" failed to register for national service as required.

According to his bio, writer Kevin Kwan was born in Singapore and left when he was 11, living in the U.S. since then.

There was no immediate response Wednesday from his publisher to a request for comment. Male Singaporean citizens are required to spend two years, in most cases, in a uni-

formed service as young adults.

The government said in a statement that Kwan was wanted for "defaulting on his NS obligations" for failing to register as required in 1990, and for staying abroad without a valid exit permit. It said authorities rejected his application in 1994 to renounce his Singaporean citizenship without serving the mandatory national service.

"Mr. Kwan has committed offences under the Enlistment Act, and is liable to a fine of

up to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment of up to 3 years upon conviction," said the statement from Singapore's Ministry of Defense.

Kwan did not travel to Singapore for Tuesday night's premiere of the hit romantic comedy based on his book, based on comments from various cast members who said they were missing him, and on the fact he did not make an appearance there.

Kwan is descended from a wealthy Singaporean family.

Much of "Crazy Rich Asians," is set in Singapore. The story follows Chinese-American Rachel Chu as she travels with her boyfriend Nick Young to Singapore to meet his family and discovers they are ultra-wealthy.

The \$30 million Warner Bros. film has grossed more than \$35 million since its Aug. 15 world debut in Los Angeles and came out tops with its release in U.S. theaters over the weekend. It is opening in many Asian cities this week.

Actor Adam Driver's claim of Indiana KKK rallies accurate

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP)—A museum official who questioned "Star Wars" actor Adam Driver's recent comments about remembering frequent Ku Klux Klan rallies during his youth in northern Indiana now acknowledges he was wrong.

Driver made the comments during a USA Today interview about his role in the new movie "BlacKkKlansman." Travis Childs of The History Museum in South Bend was quoted Monday saying the actor was likely misremembering his childhood in nearby Mishawaka.

"If they were as active as he said they were active, they'd have been in the paper every other week," Childs told the Indianapolis Star.

But local Klan members and rallies were indeed frequent when Driver, 34, was growing up. Six men claiming to be Klansmen attacked a black couple and their baby arriving home in 1992, less than two years after Driver moved to Mishawaka from California at age 7, according to the South Bend Tribune. The men were later sent to prison for the crimes.

Four local white men claiming affiliation with a hate group called White Brotherhood set out to find and rob a black woman in 1993, killing Cathy Long in the process and drawing media coverage. They were also sentenced to prison, according to the newspaper.

The Tribune also reported

that five KKK rallies occurred in the area between 1993 and 2001, in addition to two KKK protests in 1998 when a white student was forced to remove a shirt with a racial slur.

The area was also known for Railton Loy, who claimed to be the head of the National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Loy's Osceola farm was the site of more than 15 rallies and similar events between 2000 and 2007, including the annual "White Pride Fest," according to the newspaper.

Childs, who moved to the area in 1999, said he hadn't adequately researched the Klan's history in the area before commenting on Driver's assertions.

"I was shocked," he said.

"I would have never guessed there were that many events. Shocked and saddened."

Childs said he regrets that people outside Indiana who read about the state's Klan history will develop a negative impression.

"You can't lie though," he said. "You can't deny ... that they were here. Indiana was the backbone of the KKK for a lot of years" in the early 20th century.

Historians estimate that nearly a third of Indiana's native-born white Protestant men were Klan members at one point. More than 30 hate groups operate in the state today, with three of them affiliated with the Klan, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Actor says he feared speaking out about Asia Argento assault

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A young actor who alleged in legal documents that Italian actress and filmmaker Asia Argento sexually assaulted him when he was 17 said Wednesday that his trauma resurfaced when Argento came out as a victim of sexual assault herself last year.

"I did not initially speak out about my story because I chose to handle it in private with the person who wronged me," Bennett, now 22, said in a statement released through Attorney Gordon K. Sattro.

The comments were his first made publicly since a Sunday New York Times story saying Argento reached a \$380,000 legal settlement with him last year over an alleged sexual assault in a California hotel room in 2013.

"I have not made a public statement in the past days and hours because I was ashamed and afraid to be part of the public narrative. I was underage when the event took place, and I tried to seek justice in a way that made sense to me at the time."

Bennett said he believed there was a stigma to being sexually assaulted as a male, and that he "didn't think that people would understand the event that took place from the eyes of a teenage boy."

His comments come a day after the 42-year-old Argento denied having a sexual relationship with him. She said in a statement Tuesday that she was linked "in friendship only" to Bennett, who played her son in a film in 2004.

She said the \$380,000 payment, made in response to a notice of intent to sue for \$3.5 million in damages that Bennett had filed, was undertaken by her boyfriend Anthony Bourdain, the celebrity chef who killed himself in France in June.

"Anthony personally undertook to help Bennett economically, upon the condition that we would no longer suffer any further intrusions in our life," Argento's statement said.

Earlier Wednesday, TMZ published a photo that showed Argento and Bennett lying together, their

heads touching as they lay on a pillow, their shirts apparently off. The celebrity website did not say how it obtained the photo. A previous picture on TMZ showed the pair embracing but sitting up and fully clothed.

The Los Angeles County sheriff's department said it is looking into the allegations and seeking to talk to Bennett. No police report was filed at the time, the department said. The age of consent in California is 18.



Argento

Argento became one of the leading figures of the #MeToo movement after she told the New Yorker magazine last year that Weinstein raped her at the Cannes Film Festival in 1997 when

she was 21. Weinstein has been indicted on sex crime accusations involving three women, but not including Argento. He has denied having engaged in any non-consensual sexual acts.

Bennett said in his statement that Argento's emergence as a Weinstein accuser brought back his own trauma, and the movement as a whole has prompted him to address the experience.

"Many brave women and men have spoken out about their own experiences during the #MeToo movement, and I appreciate the bravery that it took for each and every one of them to take a stand," Bennett's statement said.

Actress Ashley Judd, another Weinstein accuser, spoke out Wednesday against anyone who would use the Argento allegations to undermine the #MeToo movement.

"We hold any and every abuser accountable, regardless of their gender, race, socio-economic status, public visibility or popularity," Judd said on Twitter. "Sexual violence is wrong, full stop."

Also Wednesday, Argento backed out of curating a Dutch music festival.

Organizers of the "Le Guess Who?" festival said in a statement that "due to the volatile nature of the accusations surrounding Ms. Argento, she has chosen to withdraw from her curatorship of this year's edition, while these issues remain open."



From left, Simon Helberg, Jim Parsons, Kunal Nayyar and Johnny Galecki on the CBS series, "The Big Bang Theory." The show will come to an end after its 12-season run in May 2019, CBS announced.

MICHAEL ANSELL/CBS

CBS' 'The Big Bang Theory' to end in 2019 after 12 seasons

NEW YORK (AP)—CBS says the upcoming 12th season of "The Big Bang Theory" will be the last.

It's the most popular comedy on television.

The series began about

geeky physicist roommates portrayed by Jim Parsons and Johnny Galecki and expanded to include their friends, girlfriends and then wives. Other stars include Mayim Bialik and Kaley Cuoco.

Parsons' work on the show has earned him four Emmy awards and a Golden Globe. CBS also airs a prequel about his character called "Young Sheldon."

There's also a UCLA schol-

arship created by and named for the series to support undergrad study in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Season 12 of "Big Bang" premieres Sept. 24.

Nicki Minaj cancels North American tour with Future

ATLANTA (AP)—Hip-hop star Nicki Minaj has canceled her North American tour with rapper Future.

Minaj said on her Twitter account Tuesday night that she didn't have enough time to rehearse for the upcoming "Nicki-Hndrxx" tour in September after the release of her latest album "Queen," released Aug. 10. The rapper says she will contribute more rehearsal time toward the tour's European launch with Future in



Minaj

February.

Minaj says her North American tour will be rescheduled for May next year. However, the tour will be without co-headliner Future due to scheduling conflicts.

Minaj has been a trending topic recently after sending irritated tweets about her new album debuting No. 2 behind Travis Scott. She also faced criticism after comparing herself to Harriet Tubman ahead of her appearance at the Video Music Awards.

China denies visa for BuzzFeed writer in likely retaliation

BEIJING (AP)—China has refused to renew the journalist visa for an American correspondent for BuzzFeed News in what appears to be punishment for her reporting on topics considered sensitive by the authorities.

Megha Rajagopalan tweeted Wednesday that the foreign ministry declined to issue her a new visa in May. She said the ministry indicated it was a procedural issue and that it was unclear why.

Asked about Rajagopalan's case, the ministry responded with a statement Wednesday saying only that it handled such matters "according to laws and regulations."

During her six years in China, Rajagopalan had reported extensively on human rights abuses and the plight of China's Uighur (pronounced WEE-gur) Muslim minority, among other subjects.

China's government sometimes delays or refuses to is-

sure or renew visas for journalists if it is displeased with their reporting, their media outlets, or both.

Those include a reporter for the Al Jazeera television network who was forced to leave the country in 2012 when her visa expired, and a correspondent for France's L'Obs magazine who had to leave in 2015.

Rajagopalan has taken up a new position with BuzzFeed reporting on technology and human rights, based in the Middle East.

In a statement, the Foreign Correspondents' Club of China said it found Rajagopalan's treatment "extremely regrettable and unacceptable for a government that repeatedly insists it welcomes foreign media to cover the country."

"We are attempting to get clarity from the Foreign Ministry on its reasoning for effectively ejecting a credentialed foreign journalist from China," the club said.

LA prosecutors investigate another Kevin Spacey assault case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles County prosecutors are investigating allegations of a 2016 sexual assault by Kevin Spacey for possible criminal charges.

Spokesman Greg Risling said Wednesday that a district attorney's task force on sexual misconduct had received the

case.

Sheriff's spokeswoman Nicole Nishida said detectives in the department's Malibu-area station started the investigation in May. Nishida says the allegations stem from an Octo-



Spacey

ber 2016 incident.

It's the second Spacey case the task force is considering. The first dates to 1992 and could prove impossible to prosecute because of statutes of limitations.

Spacey spokes-

woman Laura Johnson did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

The Academy Award-winning actor has lost several roles since he was first publicly accused of sexual misconduct in October.

He's also under investigation in six cases in London.

Lost Jagger-Simon duet found after more than 45 years

LONDON (AP)—A lost Mick Jagger duet with Carly Simon has been found more than 45 years after it was first recorded.

The song, apparently never heard in public, appears to have been recorded in 1972 and was found recently on a tape owned by Rolling Stones collector Matt Lee.

Believed to be named "Fragile," at least according to Rolling Stones fan websites, the song is a slow love ballad that has Jagger and Simon seemingly sitting together at a piano and singing.

Simon spoke about the lost duet in an interview with Rolling Stone magazine about two years ago, saying the tape of the recording had been lost for decades.

"We had this little back and forth at the piano for about an hour," Simon says in the Rolling Stone interview, published Nov. 29, 2016, according to the magazine's website. She

also sang a line of the song from memory, "Funny, funny, funny, funny, How love can make you cry."

That matches with Lee's recording, except Jagger and Simon appear to sing "change" instead of "cry." Jagger does most of the singing, with Simon adding some harmonies.

When the song ends, a female voice believed to be Simon's gasps: "Good song."

Simon and Jagger worked together in 1972 when the Rolling Stones frontman supposedly sang backup vocals on Simon's hit "You're So Vain." For many years, it was thought that Jagger was the subject of that song, but Simon has denied that.

Lee, an entrepreneur from London, declined to say where the tape of the song came from. But he said Wednesday that he sent a digital copy of the song to Rolling Stone magazine because they promised to give it to Simon.

"I'm not doing it for the

Stunt coordinator injured on set of "MacGyver"

ATLANTA (AP)—A stunt coordinator has been injured on the set of the CBS TV series "MacGyver" in Atlanta.

CBS Television Studios said in a statement Wednesday that Justin Sundquist was injured late Monday after an accident. The studio says he remains hospitalized with his condition unknown after he sustained a head injury during a stunt.

CBS says the production team is cooperating with authorities to investigate the accident.

News outlets report that Sundquist sued CBS Corp. and CBS TV Studios last year after being injured on the set of "Hawaii Five-O."

Last year, stuntman John Bernecker was killed on the set of AMC's "The Walking Dead" in Georgia.



NOT BOND

AP Director Idris Elba, left, and partner Sabrina Dhowre pose for photographers on arrival at the premiere of the film 'Yardie', in London, Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2018. Elba has denied he'll be replacing Daniel Craig as 007. Asked by a reporter from ITV's "Good Morning Britain" if she was looking at the next Bond, Elba promptly replied: "No."

Long-married couple clashes over wife's right to privacy

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 25 years. I was 19 and he was 28. Among a number of things we disagree about, there's the notion that he feels I should have zero privacy. If he finds out I locked the bathroom door or the bedroom door for five minutes to get something private done, like shave or use the potty, he freaks out and yells at me. He insists that he's the husband and I shouldn't feel the need to lock him out.

This morning I locked the bedroom door for less than 10 minutes to pack my bag for a flight. I was running late and wanted to eliminate the distraction of him going in and out of the room so I could finish quickly. He flipped out, calling me rude for making him feel like he is a pervert by locking the door. In the nicest way possible I had asked him when he came to the door if he would please let me have the room until I was done packing.

Don't I have the right to lock the door if I feel I need privacy, or is he right that there's no need for privacy from a husband? I hardly get five or 10 minutes a month of it. We have a large home with four other bathrooms. It isn't a lack-of-space thing. Please help me resolve this.

IT'S PERSONAL, IN NEW YORK

DEAR IT'S PERSONAL: Everyone needs privacy at one

time or another. Because someone is married does not mean she (or he) shouldn't have the right to some -- especially when using the bathroom. Your husband is either extremely controlling or doesn't trust you to be alone, and that's not healthy. What's causing his behavior I can't guess, but a licensed mental health professional may be able to help you figure it out. If he won't agree to go, go without him.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 28-year-old man with a serious drinking problem. I function normally at work, but I have no real life outside of work or drinking.

I tried AA, but didn't feel comfortable in an organization that emphasizes God as part of the path to sobriety. I am desperate to find a way to recover, but I feel helpless. Please point me in the right direction.

ADDICTED IN KANSAS CITY, MO.

DEAR ADDICTED: Because, for the reason you stated, Alcoholics Anonymous isn't for you, I'm glad to offer secular alternatives. The first is SMART Recovery, a four-point program that encourages motivation to abstain and provides help in coping with cravings, managing negative emotions and finding a healthy life balance.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

SMART Recovery offers face-to-face support groups worldwide as well as online meetings. Its goal, like AA, is lifetime abstinence, and its meetings and help are also free. Unlike AA, lifetime attendance at meetings is not required. To find more information, visit smartrecovery.org.

Another resource is Secular Organizations for Sobriety (also known as Save Our Selves). You will find a list of meetings at sossobriety.org. Whichever you choose, I wish you a successful recovery.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



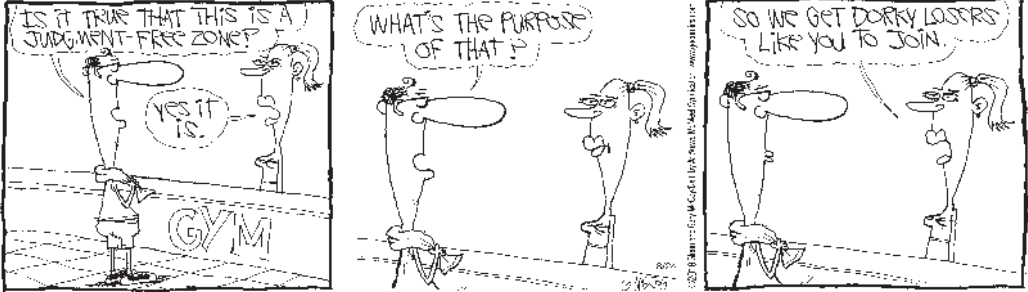
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

41 Fall into a chair

45 Fold moving

47 Actress on "The Simpsons"

48 Sudden composer

52 Fragrant tree

53 Merge

54 Vast expanse

55 Potent stick

56 Shred

57 Blunder

58 "You bet!"

DOWN

1 Staffers

2 Guzzle

3 Speakers' platforms

4 Owed amount

5 Not

6 Borscht base

7 "My Way" Paul

8 More, to Manuel

9 Ghostly greeting

10 Flightless bird

11 Slowing, in music (Abbr.)

17 Region

21 Place for a watch

23 Be nosy

24 "— the ramparts ..."

25 In shape

26 Okla-homa city

28 Disco guy on "The Simpsons"

30 Vichy water

31 Literary rep

32 Decorate

33 AWOL

36 Marathon fraction

37 Member of the Society of Friends

40 Stop

42 Southpaw

43 Sheep-ish?

44 Seg-ments

45 Get ready, briefly

46 Despot

48 Wilder's "— Town"

49 Numeri-cal prefix

50 Gratuity

51 A/C stat

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 8-24

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rupert Grint, 30; John Green, 41; Dave Chappelle, 45; Cal Ripken Jr., 58.

Happy Birthday: Turn this into your best year ever. Stand tall and do whatever it takes to clear the way for success. Your drive and stamina will help you bring about change that will improve your standard of living and encourage you to enjoy life more and worry less. Acknowledgment will be offered for the things you do and the achievements you make. Your numbers are 2, 16, 23, 26, 30, 35, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Make plans to do something you enjoy with someone you love. Love and romance are highlighted. Discuss the events, trips or activities you want to add to your bucket list. A personal change will improve your life. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll be faced with an emotional dilemma if you exaggerate or deal with someone who tends to be extravagant. Aim for quality, not quantity, when it comes to purchases you want to make. Emotional matters will disrupt your plans. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Discussions that will lead to lifestyle improvements or events that make you happy, day trips or doing something with someone you love are encouraged. Update your appearance or improve the way you take care of yourself mentally, physically and emotionally. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Lending a helping hand will improve your reputation. You'll be considered reliable and looked to for your opinion. A change of plans will lead to an

unusual encounter with someone you find intriguing. A pleasure trip is encouraged. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Think before you say something that will get you into trouble. Emotions will surface regarding the changes occurring at home, work or with someone you are close to. Don't take on more than you can handle. Offer suggestions, not empty promises. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be brave and bring about changes that will improve your life. Take a course, add to your knowledge, skills or qualifications and look for bigger and better opportunities. A change at home or to the way you live is favored. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't look for trouble. Skirt issues that will leave you at a loss. Get out with friends or do something that makes you feel good. Personal improvements, time alone or a spa day will give you time to decide what you want. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Trouble is brewing with a friend or relative. Refuse to get coerced into an emotional discussion that can leave you in an awkward position. Stick close to home and work on a personal project or creative endeavor that brings you joy. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A passionate approach to life, love and your relationships with others will make people gravitate toward you. Your ability to entertain and share information in a colorful way will win favors. Romance is highlighted. ****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A serious outlook regarding contracts, money and health will help you resolve issues that have been standing in your way. Go over your personal papers and make updates. Improve your living arrangements and conditions to better suit your needs. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Share your feelings and make a point to discuss intentions and how you plan to move forward. A commitment can be made that will help you reach your life goals. A healthy fitness and diet regimen should be put in place. ***

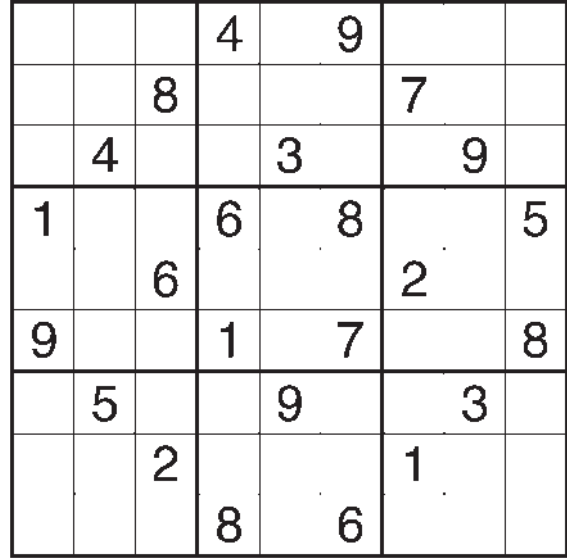
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Attend a cultural event or get involved in a fundraiser that attracts people from all walks of life. What you contribute will bring you satisfaction and a sense of camaraderie. An interesting proposal will surprise you. Positive change is heading your way. ***

Birthday Baby: You are driven, creative and resourceful. You are practical and innovative. To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

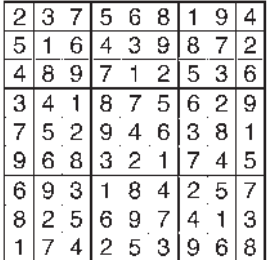
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★★★
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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SUMMER FUN Solution: 8 letters



©2012 Arcs & Moe Syndication www.wonderword.com 8/24
Awake, Backyard, Bake, Boat, Bowling, Camp, Canoe, City, Concert, Coolers, Cottage, Cruise, Cycling, Dock, Farm, Fishing, Go-Kart, Hike, Ice Cream, Kite, Lake, Lemonade, Movie, Park, Patio, Picnic, Play, Racas, Resort, Road Trip, Sail, Shade, Shopping, S'mores, Snorkel, Soccer, Sunny, Swim, Tennis, Tour, Trail, Trampoline, Treehouse, Zipline
Yesterday's Answer: Scattered
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STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

AFANELOS MARIANAS, INC.

Notice is hereby given that AFANELOS MARIANAS INC., whose last known principal office was located at Songsong, Rota, was dissolved effective May 29, 2018. If there are any questions, please contact Kaye Christian at 532-5293.

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

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JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc. Dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Yano Enterprises, Inc.: General Maintenance (1): Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing, repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience.

Application by phone call will not be accepted.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered.

Interested applicants must apply in person: applications can be picked up at MISA Building Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Friday, August 31, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY

- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Adoption of Minutes
 - 1) July 31, 2018 - Regular Meeting

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS'

III. REPORTS

- a. Chair's Report
- b. Executive Director's Report

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Proposed House Local Bill to Enact the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Professional Services Contract Janet H. King
- b. Professional Services Contract Oliver M. Manglona
- c. Licensing Matters
 - 1. Alter City Group
 - 2. Tinian Entertainment Company

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION²

VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

¹Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
²Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 09-2018

Opening date: August 15, 2018
Closing date: September 14, 2018

Positions: (2) Custodial-I (Saipan)
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport.** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport is no later than **5:00 pm on Friday, September 14, 2018.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp or cpa.boardsec@pticom.com by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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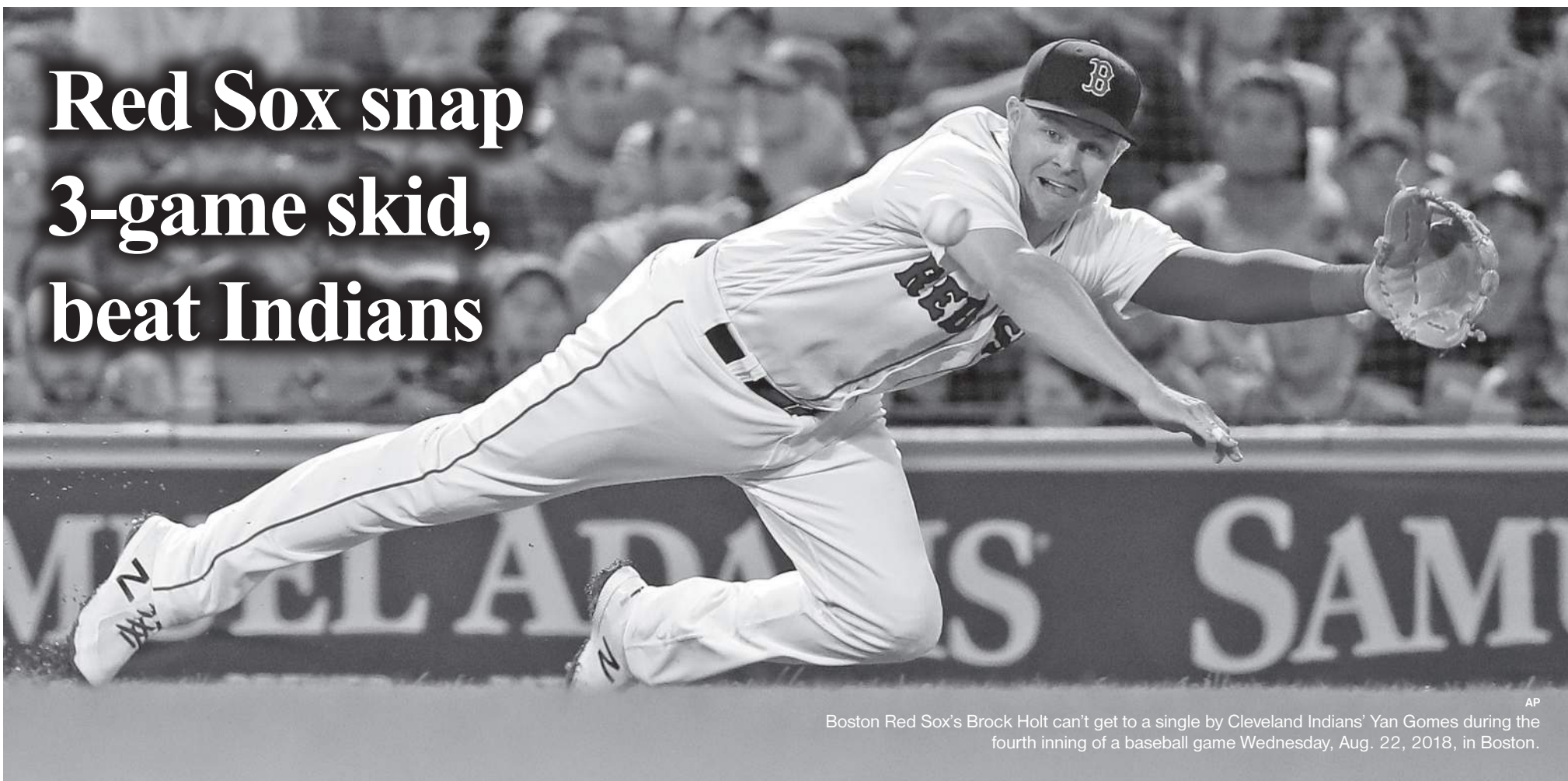
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Red Sox snap 3-game skid, beat Indians



AP
Boston Red Sox's Brock Holt can't get to a single by Cleveland Indians' Yan Gomes during the fourth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2018, in Boston.

BOSTON (A P)—The Boston Red Sox didn't let a three-game skid dampen things. After all, nobody has been able to keep the AL East leaders down for longer than that this season.

Xander Bogaerts hit two solo homers, Andrew Benintendi had a three-run double to cap a big fourth inning and the Red Sox beat the Cleveland Indians 10-4 on Wednesday night to halt their three-game skid.

"We struggled during the week, but that's more like us," Boston manager Alex Cora said.

Mitch Moreland added a two-run homer for the Red Sox, who lost the previous two nights in a matchup of AL division leaders. Boston is the only team in the majors without a four-game losing streak this season.

"You couldn't tell if we won or lost yesterday after you waked in (to the clubhouse)," Moreland said. "That's the beauty of this group. We know what we've got to do, we know what we've got in front of us and that's all we focus on. We've been really good at it all year."

Boston has the best record in the majors. Its only other three-game skid came in April.

Edwin Encarnacion hit a pair of two-run homers in his first game off the disabled list for Central-leading Cleveland. The Indians are 17-5 on the road since July 1 and 21-10 overall since the All-Star break.

Matt Barnes (5-3) pitched a hitless inning of relief and was credited with the victory after starter Brian Johnson was pulled with the Red Sox leading and one out in the fifth. Johnson gave up three runs.

Carlos Carrasco (15-7) was tagged for six runs, five

earned, in 3 2/3 innings.

"They're really good hitters and they use the whole field," Cleveland manager Terry Francona said. "That's part of what they do. You've gotta make them at least think about (inside), because they just cover too much. He (Carrasco) was trying to, he just couldn't get it there."

Bogaerts tied it 2-all in the fourth by hitting his first shot completely out of Fenway Park over the Green Monster.

Cardinals 3, Dodgers 1

In Los Angeles, Paul DeJong hit a go-ahead, two-run homer off Kenley Jansen in the ninth inning, lifting the St. Louis Cardinals to a victory and a three-game sweep of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Cardinals' eighth straight road win helped them improve to 17-4 this month, the most wins in the majors. They've homered in 15 straight games, one off the current season mark of 16 in a row by Philadelphia.

Nationals 8, Phillies 7

In Washington, Ryan Zimmerman hit a two-run home run with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift the Washington over Philadelphia.

Juan Soto's two-double against Seranthony Dominguez (1-4) set up Zimmerman. His drive landed just above the right-field wall and required review before the umpire crew acknowledged the homer. Zimmerman has 11 walk-off home runs for his career.

Maikel Franco, Justin Bour and Cesar Hernandez homered for the Phillies, who led 7-5 in the seventh. Philadelphia, which has lost nine of 13, fell three games behind NL East-leading Atlanta.

Diamondbacks 5, Angels 1

In Phoenix, Paul Goldschmidt hit a two-run homer to set the all-time mark at Chase Field, Clay Buchholz pitched seven scoreless innings and Arizona beat Los Angeles.

Goldschmidt connected off Odrisamer Despaigne (2-2) in the first inning, passing Luis Gonzalez with his 96th homer at Chase Field. Goldschmidt had three hits to extend his hitting streak to 14 games and has reached safely in 27 straight.

Rockies 6, Padres 2

In Denver, Ian Desmond laced a two-run triple in the sixth inning and Jon Gray pitched effectively into the seventh in leading Colorado over San Diego.

Tony Wolters added an RBI triple and a sacrifice fly for the rolling Rockies, who remained 1 1/2 games behind NL West-leading Arizona. Colorado is 17-6 at home since July 2.

Colorado has won each of Gray's last nine starts, matching a franchise record.

Jacob Nix (1-2) allowed three runs over five innings.

Brewers 4, Reds 0

In Milwaukee, Brewers rookie Freddy Peralta tossed seven scoreless innings and drove in a run with his first career hit, combining with two relievers on a five-hitter to lead Milwaukee past Cincinnati.

Christian Yelich homered and finished a triple shy of the cycle, reaching base five times and driving in two runs for Milwaukee. He opened the first with his 21st homer, doubled in the third, walked in the fourth and singled in the sixth and eighth.

Cubs 8, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Jon Lester pitched into the sixth inning and Chicago homered three times in a win over Detroit.

The Cubs had scored exactly one run in each of their previous five games. David Bote ended that streak with a two-run homer in the fifth, and Lester (14-5) allowed a run and seven hits in 5 2/3 innings.

Javier Baez and Anthony Rizzo hit consecutive homers in the ninth for Chicago to break the game open.

Braves 2, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Ronald Acuna Jr. hit another leadoff home run and Freddie Freeman had a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth inning to lift Julio Teheran and Atlanta past Pittsburgh for a three-game sweep.

Acuna hit the fifth pitch out to right-center off Trevor Williams. It was the rookie's 21st homer and sixth leading off the first inning, including four in the last two weeks.

The NL East leaders went ahead 2-1 in the eighth when Freeman sent a flyball to deep left field off Edgar Santana. That came after Atlanta loaded the bases against Kyle Crick (2-2), who did not retire any of the three batters he faced.

Marlins 9, Yankees 3

In Miami, hours after All-Star closer Aroldis Chapman went on the disabled list with left knee tendinitis, Lance Lynn gave up five runs in the sixth inning and New York lost to last-place Miami.

The Yankees managed only one extra-base hit against five Miami pitchers. They committed three errors and struck out 11 times in a defeat that ended their four-game winning streak.

Giancarlo Stanton, playing in Miami for the first time since the Marlins traded him last November, went 1 for 3 with an RBI and finished 3 for 9 in the series.

Astros 10, Mariners 7

In Seattle, Martin Maldonado and Tyler White each homered and had three hits, helping Houston beat Seattle.

Maldonado had three RBI and White had two. The Astros led 9-1 before the Mariners got one back in the fifth and added five more in the sixth.

Charlie Morton (13-3) got the win despite allowing six runs before leaving the game with no one out in the sixth.

Roberto Osuna pitched the ninth to earn his 10th save and first as an Astro.

Rangers 4, Athletics 2

In Oakland, Mike Minor pitched six scoreless innings of one-hit ball to win his fourth straight, Joey Gallo hit his 33rd home run and Texas beat Oakland.

Adrian Beltre had a pair of RBI singles to help the Rangers end a six-game losing streak to the A's. Jurickson Profar added two hits. Elvis Andrus singled and scored after going hitless in his previous 12 at-bats.

Mets 5, Giants 3

In New York, Todd Frazier homered and hit an RBI double, Noah Syndergaard pitched six effective innings and New York beat San Francisco.

Dominic Smith and Jose Bautista also went deep for New York. Jeff McNeil tripled and singled his first two times up to set a Mets rookie record with a hit in eight consecutive at-bats. The 26-year-old sec-

ond baseman grounded out in his next chance at the plate.

Rays 6, Royals 3

In St. Petersburg, Brandon Lowe and Mallex Smith drove in two runs each, and Tampa Bay beat Kansas City to move five games over .500 for the first time this season.

Lowe, who drove in the first two runs with a second-inning single off Jakob Junis (6-12), and Smith were among six Rays who had two hits each.

Blue Jays 6, Orioles 0

In Toronto, Kendrys Morales homered for the fourth consecutive game, Thomas Pannone and two relievers combined on a two-hitter and Toronto finished its home slate against Baltimore with a 10-0 record.

Devon Travis had a three-run shot in the eighth as the Blue Jays blew open the game with a five-run outburst against Miguel Castro, who uncorked three wild pitches and didn't retire any of the five batters he faced.

White Sox 7, Twins 3

In Chicago, Adam Engel broke a tie with a two-run homer in a five-run fifth, Carlos Rodon continued his torrid stretch with six strong innings and Chicago beat Minnesota.

Nicky Delmonico and Tim Anderson also homered off Twins starter Kyle Gibson (7-10), helping send him to only his second loss in seven career decisions at Guaranteed Rate Field.

Chicago won for the sixth time in eight games.

The White Sox sent 11 batters to the plate against Gibson and Gabriel Moya in the fifth to snap a 2-2 tie.

Woods, Mickelson confirm \$90M showdown



NEW YORK (A)—The winner-take-all match between Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson is on.

WarnerMedia says it has secured the rights for a pay-per-view event it is promoting as "The Match." It will be 18 holes between Woods and Mickelson held Thanksgiving weekend at Shadow Creek in Las Vegas. The winner will receive \$9 million.

The pay-per-view cost is to be announced later.

Woods announced that the match was on in a tweet, setting off Twitter banter with Mickelson, who only signed up for a Twitter account Wednesday.

WarnerMedia says pay-per-view coverage will be distributed through Turner's B/R Live, AT&T DirecTV and U-verse, and other on-demand platforms. HBO Sports and

Bleacher Report will take part in the promotion.

Woods and Mickelson will make side bets during the match on such things as longest drive or closest to the pin.

Meanwhile, Woods has reiterated his desire to crown his year of redemption by winning a place on the US Ryder Cup team.

Woods is preparing to feature in the FedEx Cup playoffs at Ridgewood Country Club in New Jersey having qualified for the event for the first time in five years.

It follows the 42-year-old's spectacular return to form at the US PGA Championships this month, when a final round 64 placed his second behind winner Brooks Koepka.

Woods has already been named as a vice-captain for the event, which is due to start in France at the end of next month, assisting captain



Jim Furyk.

"At the beginning of the year I told Jim I want to be a part of the team, not just as a vice-captain but as a player, and I'm close to making that happen," Woods said.

"It's been a long year and one of my goals was to make that team as one of the 12 best players, and I'm training for it."

Woods believes his battling comeback from four back surgeries which threatened his fu-

ture in the sport has endeared him to a new group of fans.

In a far cry from his early, dominant days on the tour, Woods' return has exposed his vulnerabilities and contributed to what he describes as his

AP
Tiger Woods, left, and Phil Mickelson share a laugh on the 11th tee box while playing a practice round for the Masters golf tournament at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga., Tuesday, April 3, 2018.

"different" year.

"Everyone can relate to it because they've all gone through it—when you get to your forties you're feeling it," he said. "I've struggled and I've had some back pain, I've been through four surgeries and I'm trying to work back and it's been tough, and people understand that."

"I think people are more appreciative. They know I'm at the tailend of my career. I don't know how many years I've got left but I'm certain I'm not like I was when I was 22. At 42 it is a different ballgame," he added.

PARAMUS, N.J. (AP)—The majors are done for the year. Brooks Koepka is not.

Koepka is one week removed from winning the PGA Championship which, to go along with his second straight U.S. Open title, gives him a sensational season by anyone's standards. Tiger Woods called Koepka a lock to win PGA Tour player of the year.

Koepka doesn't believe that's the case. And a look at his FedEx Cup playoff record is all the motivation he needs.

In three years of being eligible for the PGA Tour's postseason, Koepka has one top-10 finish. He has started inside the top 20 each of the last three years and has yet to improve his standing when the four playoff events were over. One year, he didn't

Koepka looking to put a great finish on a great year

make it beyond the third playoff event.

"Sitting back and reflecting on it, how cool is it to be player of the year? It would be such an honor," Koepka said Wednesday. "But I need to finish it off. I want to come out in the playoffs and actually perform, and hopefully, leave it where there is no option."

It starts Thursday at The Northern Trust on a course that might remind him of Bellerive, where Koepka set the PGA Championship scoring record at 264.

Ridgewood Country Club is plenty long at 7,385 yards for a par 71. The rough is thicker than usual because of recent rain, which also means the course is

extremely soft. Dustin Johnson, the world's No. 1 player and the top seed in the FedEx Cup, rarely hit a shot from the fairway without splashes of mud on his golf ball.

And this is one of the strongest fields of the year.

The FedEx Cup playoffs begin with the top 125 on the PGA Tour, meaning all of them have shown some degree of form to get here. Five players are missing because of injuries (Henrik Stenson, Rickie Fowler, Bud Cauley), a wedding to attend (Patrick Rodgers) or an extra week of rest (Rory McIlroy).

With the points worth quadruple value, the top 100 after this week advance to the second stage at the TPC Boston next

week, with the top 70 reaching the BMW Championship at Aronimink and the top 30 going to the Tour Championship at East Lake, which most players are starting to regard as the promised land.

"It's one of my goals every year to make it to Atlanta," Justin Thomas said. "No matter what I'm ranked in the world, or how many wins I've had, if you're one of the top 30 players over the course of a year, you still have to be doing something right."

A lot has gone right for Koepka in a year that began so wrong.

The pain he felt in his left wrist in early December never went away over the holidays, and after finishing 37 shots behind Dustin Johnson

at Kapalua, he was out for four months. He spent some two months in a soft cast to let the partially torn tendon heal, and wound up missing the Masters.

"I remember when I took the soft cast off, and I went to push down on the shampoo bottle or the soap bottle, it hurt to do that," Koepka said. "I was like, 'Man, I'm in for a really long recovery.'"

Koepka had no assurances he would have a full recovery that allowed him to compete. Months later, his return was nothing short of amazing. In his third start, he was runner-up at Colonial. Three weeks later at Shinnecock Hills, he became the first player in 29 years to win back-to-back in

the U.S. Open.

Two months later, he became the first player since Tiger Woods in 2000 to win the U.S. Open and PGA Championship in the same year.

"I guess it's like having an animal in a cage and you open that cage and they just can't wait to get out," Koepka said. "The competition I missed so much. There's absolutely no competition sitting on the couch. The only thing I was competing in was who could eat the most. And I was doing a really good job at that."

Koepka has a chance to reach No. 1 in the world this week, though he is thinking more about the next four tournaments, and the \$10 million bonus that awaits the next FedEx Cup champion.

"I just haven't shown up," he said.

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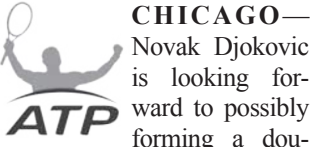
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Djokovic excited by prospect of Federer doubles link



CHICAGO— Novak Djokovic is looking forward to possibly forming a doubles dream-team with Roger Federer as Europe prepares to take on the Rest of the World in the Laver Cup next month.

Djokovic and Federer will spearhead the European challenge in the second staging of the tournament, which takes place in Chicago from September 21-23.

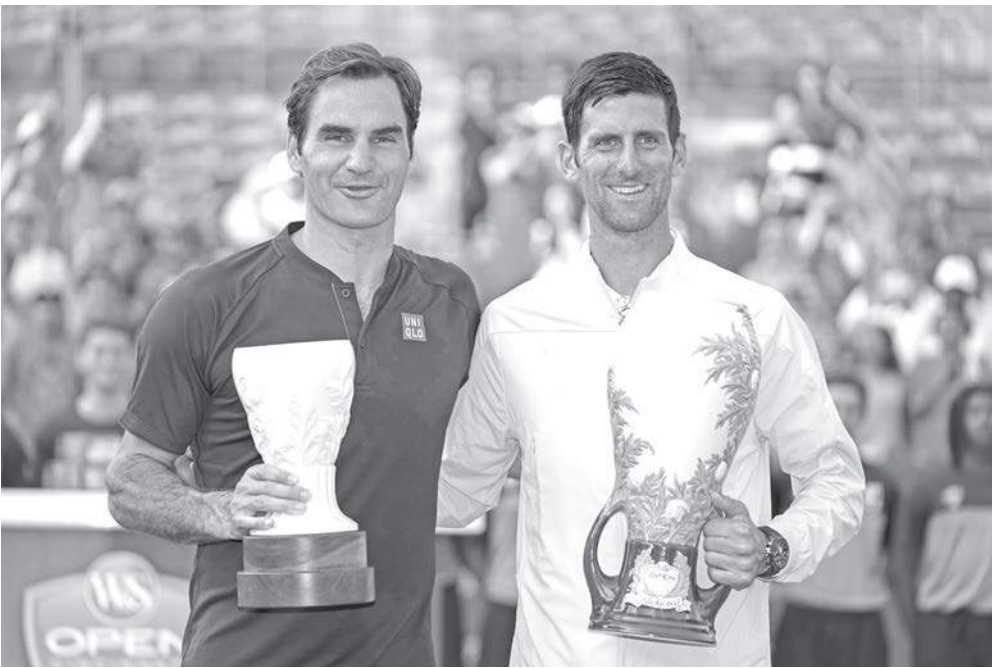
Team Europe completed their roster for the event with Britain's Kyle Edmund being added to a strong team which also includes Germany's Alexander Zverev, Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov and Belgium's David Goffin.

In last year's inaugural event, Federer teamed up with Rafael Nadal in the doubles for the first time.

But with Nadal missing this year's tournament, Djokovic is now expected to form a partnership with Federer.

"I am looking forward to it if it comes to that," said Djokovic, who was ruled out of the 2017 event through injury.

Djokovic said the opportuni-



ty of spending time with fellow professionals in a team environment was too good to pass up.

"I am looking forward to spending time with (Federer) and all the other players," he said. "Life on the tour is different. You have your team, and you have your support. The only team event we play is Davis Cup. And you don't get to mix up so much with your biggest rivals for obvious reasons."

"Laver Cup is a competi-

tion which unites us all and it is very unusual to see that but also very nice that all the

players were there backing and supporting the player which as performing on the

AP
Novak Djokovic, right, of Serbia holds the Rookwood Cup after defeating Roger Federer of Switzerland during the finals at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, Sunday, Aug. 19, 2018, in Mason, Ohio.

court," he added.

The World team will be led by Argentina's Juan Martin del Potro and also includes Diego Schwartzman, Americans John Isner and Jack Sock, South Africa's Kevin Anderson and Australia's Nick Kyrgios.

Meanwhile, Chins Li Na could become the first player from Asia elected to the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

The two-time major champion from China is one of eight Grand Slam title win-

ners who are candidates for the International Tennis Hall of Fame's Class of 2019, a list that includes Goran Ivanisevic, Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Conchita Martinez.

Also on the slate revealed Wednesday for the Hall's first election that will include a fan vote: Jonas Bjorkman, Sergi Bruguera, Thomas Muster and Mary Pierce.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	89	39	.695	—
New York	79	47	.627	9
Tampa Bay	66	61	.520	22½
Toronto	58	69	.457	30½
Baltimore	37	90	.291	51½

Central Division

Cleveland	73	53	.579	—
Minnesota	60	66	.476	13
Detroit	52	75	.409	21½
Chicago	48	78	.381	25
Kansas City	38	89	.299	35½

West Division

Houston	77	50	.606	—
Oakland	76	51	.598	1
Seattle	72	56	.563	5½
Los Angeles	63	65	.492	14½
Texas	57	72	.442	21

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

Atlanta	71	55	.563	—
Philadelphia	68	58	.540	3
Washington	64	63	.504	7½
New York	56	70	.444	15
Miami	51	77	.398	21

Central Division

Chicago	72	53	.576	—
St. Louis	70	57	.551	3
Milwaukee	71	58	.550	3
Pittsburgh	63	65	.492	10½
Cincinnati	56	71	.441	17

West Division

Arizona	71	56	.559	—
Colorado	69	57	.548	1½
Los Angeles	67	60	.528	4
San Francisco	62	66	.484	9½
San Diego	50	79	.388	22

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mafia vs Pythons in Masters finals

The 6JMS Mafia and 6JMS Pythons arranged their finals showdown in the Masters Division of the Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light Cup after scoring similar wins over their semis foes last Wednesday.

The No. 1 seed 6JMS Mafia booked the first finals berth after beating Amari's Nakayoshi, 9-4. No. 3 6JMS Pythons also recorded a 9-4 triumph over the 151 Proffers to move into the title match that will be played on Aug. 29.

Gilbert Gatmaitain, Omar Quindoza, Allan Dellica, Erwin Clavecillas, Joker Camacho, John Cruz, Noel Unay, and Rolly Morales played for 6JMS Mafia.

Meanwhile, the 6JMS

Bulldogs defeated the Jonny's Bull Hitters, 8-5, to advance to the quarterfinals of the C Division. Raymund Velasco, Orenca, Rod Pergil, Phil Celis, Ton Reyes, Agnes Tereyama, and Edwin Licican delivered the wins for the 6JMS Bulldogs, which will challenge 6JMS Dart Vaders in the Round of 8 on Aug. 29. 6JMS Dart Vaders has Mike Ito, Zack Cruz, Warden Emulator, R. J. Llab, Russ Salmon, Dennis Moses, Harry Nekaifes, and Marty Llek on its roster.

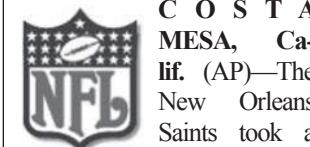
The other quarterfinal pairings in C Division are Oleai Darts vs Jonny's Werpa, Amari's Built-It vs Rivers Shot, and Amari's Weltzside vs Amari's Like A G4. **(Fahim Uddin).**

ing wild card Taylah Lawless, 6-2, 7-5.

At the lower half of the draw, the quarterfinalists were Australia's Charlotte Kempnaers-Pocz, No. 4 Megan Smith, wild card Amy Stevens, and the unranked Anastasia Berezov.

Meanwhile, Lee partnered with Australia's Chiara Di Tommaso and the No. 3 seed duo lost to the latter's compatriots Jemma Carbis and Lexie Weir, 3-6, 2-6. With Lee and Di Tommaso out, only three seeded pairs are in contention—No. 1 Grace Schumacher and Smith, No. 4 Berezov and Walker, and No. 2 Marshall and Helena Spiridis.

Saints, Chargers praise each other for lively joint practice



C O S T A MESA, Calif. (AP)—The New Orleans Saints took a four-hour flight into Southern California late Tuesday night, and they hit the Los Angeles Chargers' training camp fields early Wednesday.

Instead of being bothered by the tough turnaround, the Saints used the circumstances to sharpen their focus for the upcoming season.

The Saints and Chargers are practicing together at Jack Hammett Sports Complex for the second consecutive year, breaking up the late stages of the preseason with two days of joint workouts ahead of

their preseason game Saturday night in Carson.

"It's a game situation for three or four days," said Saints linebacker Manti Te'o, the former Chargers player. "Everything is better when you're going against somebody. The competition level rises. We have three mini-games, and then we have the real game. I was really pleased with the energy we had, and it's nice to go against a team that has similar energy."

Both head coaches pronounced themselves pleased by their players' efforts in the practice. The teams also managed to avoid any fights, staying away from a common occurrence in joint practices.

There were a few close shaves, such as Chargers pass-rush specialist Melvin Ingram's strip-sack of Drew Brees. Ingram later apologized for getting so close to Brees, who wasn't bothered.

"Stuff is happening fast out there," Brees said with a shrug. "At times, some people are going to bump into you."

Chargers receiver Mike Williams was particularly sharp in the workouts, making another series of tough catches in his impressive start to the season. Williams missed training camp as a rookie last year due to injury, but he looked impressive against the Saints' defensive backs.

BLUE

From Page 32

of players who have donned the CNMI colors in previous tournaments and is beefed up by young guns. Overall, Mita likened the squad to a school of fish.

"We are like a school of mackerel fish. Individually, it's small and can't do a lot of things. But, when together, we become big and beautiful," the head coach added.

Takano is among the returnees on the national team and will use his experience and leadership to inspire the group's young players.

"This is my third time to play for the men's national team. I am always happy to play for the national team and am glad to have this another opportunity. This time I am assigned as a captain but, it won't change my personality, but of course I have more responsibilities. Yet, I don't feel too much pressure being a captain. I will make a good environment for the team to be together. I think that is my duty," Takano said.

"Enjoy any kind of feeling that they have and will have during the tournament," he added when asked for a message to his teammates. "It could be scary, more pressure, fun, nervous, and so on. We all share the same feeling together as a team. We are a young men's team, but we do have potential and young power. It could be worst but could be the best. I thrust the infinite possibility for our youth players. I believe in my teammates, coaches, and the people who support us."

Del Rosario is another veteran on the squad and recalled how he got help when he first suited up for the Blue Ayuyus so it's time to return the favor.

"I was only 15 years old when I was first invited to try out and join the men's team. Being one of the youngest in the pool of fit, skillful, and seasoned players, there were times that I doubted my capabilities to contribute to the team, but my teammates pulled me up and helped me get exposed to the level of soccer (games) I aim to play,"

"This year, our team has a

lot of young players and as veterans who came back to play for the national team again, we share the knowledge and experience we gained from the previous tournaments with the younger players. We make sure to work together and not let the age gap, experience, and skills (difference) get in our way. I always remind them that a single twig breaks, but the bundle of twigs is strong," added Del Rosario, who came home from Kentucky to join the team's training session starting last June.

Barry also returned to Saipan after graduating from St. Leo University in Florida to take part in the Blue Ayuyus' preparations for the East Asian Football Federation tournament.

"Soccer is a big part of my life and Saipan is a special place to me, so when the two combine, it's a no brainer that I decided to come. My goal is to have a big positive impact on the team and try to achieve what we are there to do," he said.

Barry and Tenorio are among the team's options on offense and the latter, though

feeling the pressure, said he is up to the challenge.

"I definitely feel the pressure, but it's the pressure that I want. I play better when I'm pressured and I'm excited for the challenge. I take the pressure as motivation. I will approach every game the same. I will go into the game, work 100 percent, and try to get goals for the team," Tenorio said.

Meanwhile, after today's send-off ceremony, the men's team will prepare for its trip to South Korea for the group's final training camp before it heads to Mongolia, which will have the EAFF qualifier from Sept. 2 to 6. In Ulan Bator, the Blue Ayuyus will play their first match on Sept. 2 against Guam, while their last two games will be versus Macau (Sept. 4) and the host (Sept. 6). The winner of the qualifier will march to Round 2 and play against host Chinese-Taipei, North Korea, and Hong Kong in the November competition, while the second round top placer will qualify in the finals and challenge South Korea,

CAROL

From Page 32

ond straight singles title after making it to the quarterfinals. The Australian also needed three sets to beat Malaysia's Sara Nayar in the second round, 3-6, 6-2, 6-2, and set up a duel with Marinkov for the semis slot at the upper half of the draw.

Still at the top half of the 32-player field, Lee's fellow Pacific Oceania player Violet Apisah of Papua New Guinea barged into the quarterfinals after winning over Australia's Lara Walker, 6-4, 6-4. The No. 1 seed will be up against No. 8 and Australia's Annerly Poulos, who qualified after down-

Paddlers aim for better showing in Micro Cup

By **FAHIM UDDIN**
fahimuddin489@gmail.com
REPORTER

After competing in the 9th Micronesia Games in Yap, CNMI paddlers eye a much-improved performance in the 2019 Micronesia Cup that Saipan will be hosting this October.

"The Yap experience definitely gave us lessons that will impact how we train for future competitions, like the Micro Cup," Northern Marianas Paddlesports Federation president Justin Andrew said. "The experience in Yap always adds to our learning pot—it's a never ending learning for our paddlers and the Yap Games definitely added to their game and we will use the lessons learned to train better."

Andrew coached the women's team that won the bronze medal in the 1,500m race in last month's Micro Games. The women's squad was composed of Shelli Neal, Arielle Buyum, Kristine Falig, Maria Ornes, Elizabeth Tenorio, Victoria Camama Saures, Lorenza Aldan, and Mayiah Duenas and it was the first time since 2006 that the CNMI sent female paddlers in the quadrennial events.

The men's team made up of Jose Quan, Rich Salas, James Lee, Bobby Cruz, Joshua Andrew, Billy Grow, Maverick Itibus, and coaches Jason Tarkong and Dino Manning, also got one medal (silver) after finishing second in the 15-mile race.

The Micro Games medalists are expected to suit up for their respective local clubs when Saipan hosts the Micro Cup from Oct. 26 to 28.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Outrigger Canoe paddlers negotiate a turn during last year's Micronesia Cup at Matapang Beach in Guam.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Pacific Paddlers members compete in the 500m race in last year's Micronesia Cup at Matapang Beach in Guam.

"For the Micro Cup, it's now back to each club to train and represent their group and the CNMI as a whole. We are going to work hard for the stiff and fun competition Micro Cup races always bring. We are excited to be hosting the 20th year of Micronesia Cup," the paddling group head said.

Meanwhile, Andrew took note of how the men's and women's teams worked hard for the competition in Yap.

"Our crew worked hard on

the canoe and off the canoe. Off the canoe, workouts consisted of cardio and

weights to build strong lungs and strong muscle. Our sport requires power and endurance and both workouts are a must for our athletes. On the canoe, getting the crew to blend and work on proper techniques was paramount—that included sets of sprints and doing distance runs that incorporated specific workouts to ensure our paddling athletes do best in the Games," Andrew said.

20TH ANNUAL
MICRONESIA CUP
Saipan

IT&E duathlon, trail run tomorrow



The IT&E Off-Road Duathlon and Trail

Run will push through this Saturday at the Last Command Post in Marpi.

The Triathlon Association of the CNMI-organized races will start at 6am. The duathlon event will feature a 5-kilometer run, 20K bike race, and 2.5K run. For the trail run, there are two available distances: 5K and 10K.

Winners both in the duathlon and trail run races, which are supported by IT&E and Foremost, will get medals and other prizes.

Registration fee is \$10 for individual and \$20 for a team and payment can be made on the race venue or via the registration website: <https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=145411&owner=1> Registration on race day starts at 5:30am. (PR)

Registration fees discount for Ironman 70.3 Saipan

Triathletes residing in The Marianas and Guam will be getting discounted rates on registration fees for Ironman 70.3 Saipan that will hit the road on Oct. 27.

Organizers Kiyozaki Fitness Club and Marianas Visitors Authority

have negotiated a special rate for residents of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam: \$205 for individual entries and \$275 for relay teams. The regular rate is \$430 for individual entries and \$600 for relay teams. Online registration is available at www.ironman.com. Residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota may also register at the MVA office on Beach Road San Jose. The registration deadline has also been extended to Sept. 30.

"We had a great kickoff for Ironman 70.3 Saipan last year, and we are looking forward to another great turnout on Oct. 27," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas.

"Our very generous dis-

count for residents of The Marianas and Guam aims to expose more local athletes to this world-class event. As the event grows, we hope local participations will grow, as well," Duenas added.

IRONMAN
70.3 SAIPAN

The Ironman 70.3 is one of a series of long distance triathlon races organized by the World Triathlon Corporation. Ironman 70.3 features a 1.2-mile (1.9K) swim, a 56-mile (90K) bike ride, and a 13.1-mile (21.1K) run.

Ironman 70.3 Saipan will offer 30 age qualifying slots for the 2019 Ironman 70.3 World Championship that will be held in Nice, France.

This year's race will also feature a new course. The race will begin with the swim course of two loops in the crystal-clear waters off Micro Beach at the American Memorial Park, which will also be the transition site for the three-loop bike route to the quiet nature and historic and scenic sites of Marpi. The mainly flat, two-loop run

course follows the western lagoon of the island from Micro Beach to the MVA office in

San Jose and back.

This year's Ironman 70.3 Saipan is supported by Hyatt Re-

gency Saipan, Foremost/Coca Cola, and Imperial Pacific International CNMI, LLC. (MVA)



IRONMAN SAIPAN
Runners head out to Marpi for the final leg of last year's Ironman 70.3 Saipan.



Red Sox snap
3-game skid,
beat Indians

PAGE 28

Saipan Tribune Sports

Woods,
Mickelson
confirm \$90M
showdown

PAGE 29



32 FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Carol wins opener in Australian tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee survived her opening round singles game in the Australian

Winter International 2018 last Wednesday at the Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre Rod Laver in Sydney. The No. 5 seed Lee was pitted against wild card Cyan Sun of Australia and bounced back from an opening set loss to foil the home bet's bid for an upset. Sun eked out a 6-4 victory in the first set, but failed to finish the match when Lee recovered in the second and notched the win in similar scores. Then in the decider, Lee rode on the mo-

mentum of her second set triumph to earn another tough victory, 6-4, and advance to the second round.

Round 2 was played yesterday and again Lee had to go through an extended game against unranked Bjana Marinkov. The Australian took the opening set, 6-4, but Lee fought back in the second with a nail-biting 7-6 (7) win to remain in conten-

tion. However, Marinkov eventually ousted Lee after recording a 6-4 victory in the third set.

With Marinkov eliminating the CNMI player, the former prevented Lee from arranging an early rematch with Amber Marshall. The No. 3 Marshall defeated Lee in the finals of the Oceania Closed Junior Championships 2018 in Fiji last week and is on course to her sec-

See CAROL on Page 30



Blue Ayuyus roster out



A. Fruit



Aninzo



Austria



Barry



Bucayo



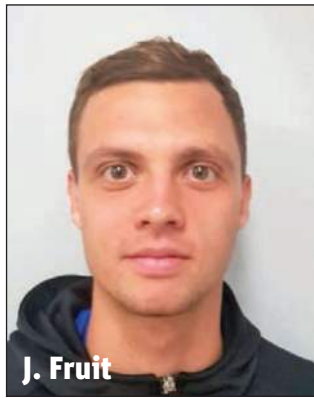
Capayas



Del Rosario



Galarion



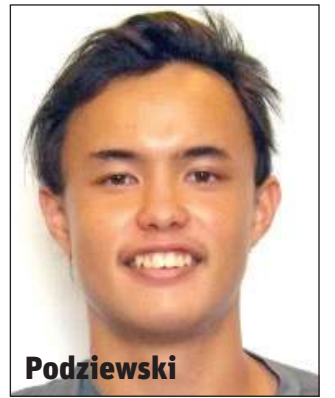
J. Fruit



Joyner



Manabat



Podziewski



Relucio



Rojas



Swaim



Takano



Tanzawa



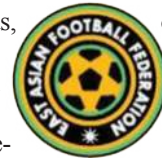
Tenorio

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Men's National Team's roster is out with 18 players making the cut after going through months of relentless training.

Leading the team is captain Jonathan Takano. Completing the roster are vice captain Enrico Del Rosario, siblings Anthony and Joel Fruit, Bo Barry, Sunjoon Tenorio, Jehn Joyner, Hark Galarion, Thaiphi Austria, Sebastien Manabat, John Bucayo, Christopher Aninzo,

John Michael Rojas, Jonathan Capayas, Nick Swaim, Dai Podziewski, Ryu Tanzawa, and Ryan Relucio. Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Michiteru Mita is the head coach, while



other officials of the team will be named this afternoon in the send-off ceremony for the Blue Ayuyus and the CNMI Women's National Team at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville, weather permitting (the venue may be

moved to Kanoa Resort if it rains). Both national squads will be competing in the EAFF E-1 Preliminary Round 1 that will be held in Ulan Bator, Mongolia early next month.

The men's team is made up

See BLUE on Page 30